

## nic and shooting in Saigon as new esident takes over

of Saigon was rocked by three miles of the city centre, causing panic in the capital, and the fighter-bombers attacked an air base on the outskirts. President Minh's immediate ceasefire proposal was rejected by the Vietcong.

## inh ceasefire plea rejected

Alburt: A pitched battle with a series of communist troops who have occupied the strategic Bien Hoa bridge only three miles north of the city centre, over the positions on the northern edge of the bridge as round after round of artillery shells whizzed over the heads of troops and watching reporters, and plunged into the northern bank of the river. The communists moved into positions north of the bridge late last night, blocking the route to Bien Hoa air base 18 miles to the north-east. They appeared well equipped and refused Government attempts to dislodge them from their positions throughout the day.

As a helicopter gunship buzzed overhead an anti-aircraft shell exploded, indicating that the North Vietnamese are equipped with both light and heavy weapons. On the political front, the outgoing President Tran Van Huong stepped down this afternoon, and General "Big" Minh was sworn in as the new President. After taking the oath of office he indicated that he would take immediate steps to get in touch with the communists and negotiate a ceasefire and peace terms.

Declaring that he did not get any pleasure out of leading the country under the present circumstances, President Minh said that his task was clear: "We must obtain a ceasefire agreement, the sooner the better, and negotiate a political solution for South Vietnam under the agreement, to end the war and restore peace in the spirit of national reconciliation and concord."

President Minh went out of his way to wave an olive branch at the Provisional Revolutionary Government (PRG). He repeatedly emphasized the phrase: "The Government which I am leading is a Government of reconciliation and concord."

He also made clear that his new Government would consist of personalities who were more acceptable to the PRG. "The Government must be composed of personalities who represent religious groups and political tendencies of South Vietnam," he said, "and who have the capability and integrity to inspire confidence, and whose position in favour of reconciliation is so obvious that no one could have doubts about their will for peace."

He immediately appointed a

## cong insist on new demands

valid negotiating partner", and was apparently told more about the PRG's further conditions. After the meeting, Mr Van Van Son, Hanoi's representative, identified his Government fully with the latest Vietcong demands and said they had to be met by "whoever wants to enter into talks with the PRG". The demands, the PRG spokesman said, were that the United States must "definitely renounce" its engagement in Vietnam, expressly observing Articles 1, 4 and 9 of the 1973 Paris Vietnam peace agreement; and there must be the "abolition" of the Saigon Administration.

of central government priors the Greek Cypriot and or communities agreed set up a committee to of forming a central government which would include both groups in peace. The decision, Vienna where their talks United Nations auspices. Page 5

restraining S the central task in the ks will be to press for consensus of support for incomes rises, Mrs Willy of State for Prices and stection, said yesterday, any statutory controls are relaxed, as voluntary as controls," she remarked. Page 2

Kingston prison, Port-1 itself over four years of 84 is to be in-ultimate capacity of say they know of no other world that houses solely to life imprisonment. Page 4

l 'lifers' Tottenham stay up Tottenham Hotspur retained their place in the first division last night when they beat Leeds United, the European Cup finalists, 4-2 at White Hart Lane. It meant that Luton Town were relegated along with Chelsea and Carlisle United. Geoffrey Green, page 11

RAF economics: The RAF is to examine from an economic point of view the value of display teams such as the Red Arrows. 5  
Israel: Mr Eban, the Israeli Foreign Minister, sees little danger of a new war and says Israel has nothing to fear from the Geneva talks. 6  
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A child hostage screams from the window of the Israel consulate in Johannesburg after police snipers had replied to bursts of fire from the terrorists.

## Children held by terrorists in raid on Israel consulate in S Africa

From Ray Kennedy Johannesburg, April 28

Three people on stretchers were wheeled out late tonight from the Israel consulate in Johannesburg, where six gunmen had been holding 12 hostages, including two children. At least two people have been killed and 40 injured in the raid on the consulate. It was not known immediately who the three people were, but some reports said one of them was one of the gunmen. They were driven to hospital as heavily armed South African troops apparently prepared to storm the besieged consulate offices.

Mr Yitzhak Uss, the Israeli Ambassador, who arrived in Johannesburg after a 1,000-mile air journey from Cape Town, was persuaded by the authorities not to enter the consulate to negotiate with the terrorists. The terrorists were said late tonight to have demanded a helicopter, capable of carrying four people and their baggage, so that they could not be distinguished. The South African police said they had rejected the demands.

The terrorists said they wanted the helicopter to land on the roof of a department store a block away from the consulate, but it was not clear where the terrorists expected to

## London dockers likely to accept 30% rise

By Paul Routledge Labour Editor

London dockers are expected today to accept a new pay and productivity deal giving to a 30 per cent rise in wages and a 30 per cent rise in the price for keeping the capital's port viable.

Little opposition is likely at a mass meeting of more than 6,000 dock workers who stand to gain up to £17 a week after the recent five-week strike.

Neither the employers nor the union, the Transport and General Workers' Union, have been greatly concerned about the social contract in the closing stages of negotiations on a new pay structure. The agreement includes a productivity clause aimed at restoring the sagging commercial reputation of the country's biggest port. It will give dockers a bonus of up to £100 a year, first 50 tons handled each day, and 7p a ton thereafter. The scheme ensures that workers in all sections of the port will benefit as nearly equally as possible. The agreement, which goes well beyond the negotiating

guidelines of the TUC's social contract wage restraint pact, will lift basic rates for fit men in the docks by 16.39 to £55 a week. Category B men, fit only for light work, will go up from £40.11 to £46.50. But on top of these minima improved differentials give crane drivers an extra £3.35, and the less skilled £4.25. Forklift truck men will see their differential rise to £2.85. The overall addition to the London port employers' wage bill is calculated as well over 30 per cent compared with the offer of about 25 per cent spurned before the crippling dock strike began.

The employers' initial calculations suggest that productivity payments will start with a minimum of £2.50 a week, reversing the slump in output that started four years ago with the abolition of piece-rate working. The offer has been passed to dock workers by the TGWU and the employers. Both sides are conscious that productivity has been dropping rapidly to just over 50 tons a day a man in the weeks before today's vote.

Letters: On productivity at British Leyland, from Mr G. H. B. Cartell and others; defence of North Sea installations, from Mr Cyril Townsend. MP. Leading articles: The real dispute on steel: Case for sixth-form colleges; Cyprus Features, pages 7 and 16. Fred Emery says that the commission of some Americans should not be forgotten; Robert Kilroy-Silk calls on the Labour Government not to be frightened of carrying out its socialist policies; David Bonavia on the real purpose of next month's visit to Paris of China's leading deputy prime minister. Diary, page 16. Michael Leppman sets the scene for the Commonwealth Primes Ministers' Conference in Jamaica. Arts, page 9. Victor Gollancz in Paris reviews exhibitions by Philip King and Wilhelm Wagenfeld. Obituary, page 18. Miss Phyllis Dore. Sport, pages 10 and 11. Victor racing: John Blunsdon reviews the lessons of the Spanish Grand Prix; Football: Geoffrey Green discusses England's party for return match with Cyprus; Richard Phillips takes an early look at Guinea's prospects. Business News, page 19-25. Stock market: Equities staged a good recovery from early losses. Best performer was the 77 index, up 4.7 to 15.7. Features: The contribution to the Monetarism debate being made by the Manchester University Inflation Workshop is discussed by Tim Congdon. Signposts Diary: "Interest" parties are being invited to have their say before the Finance Bill reaches the committee stage.

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## Minister protests at anti-EEC move to run Labour machine

By Michael Hatfield Political Staff

The Labour dispute over Europe, in which the party is officially committed to opposing the Government's recommendations, was taken a stage further yesterday when a letter of protest was sent to the party chairman, Mr Mulley, Minister for Transport, by Mr Ennals, Minister of State at the Foreign Office.

Mr Ennals has taken exception to an attempt by left-wing members of the party's national executive committee to commit the party machine and funds to running the anti-EEC campaign. He has told Mr Mulley that such an action "would be contrary to the decision of the special party conference on Saturday and will be flying in the face of assurances you gave to me and the whole conference."

At a press conference yesterday, Mr Ennals said he was acting individually as MP for Norwich, North, not as a minister. He had not consulted the Prime Minister or Mr Callaghan, Secretary of State for Foreign and Commonwealth Affairs, about the letter before they left for the Commonwealth conference in Jamaica.

He wanted to make sure the conference decision was faithfully respected in the letter and spirit. He said: "I greatly regret that an attempt should be made to call a special meeting of the executive (on Wednesday) at a time when it is known that the Prime Minister and Foreign Secretary are out of the country."

In his letter Mr Ennals pointed out that the conference had carried an executive statement opposing Britain's continuing membership of the European Community and saying that the party should campaign along the line suggested in a memorandum by Mr Hayward, its general secretary. Mr Hayward had emphasized that public meetings and other campaign activities would have to be organized by individual parties.

Mr Ennals said that at the conference, Mr Bryan Stanley, of the Post Office Engineering Union, who had moved the executive's statement opposing the "suggested terms" of the EEC, had been recommended that "the party should campaign in the country to obtain a massive vote in the referendum against Britain's membership". He added:

"Any such campaign involving the party machine and party funds would not only be extremely unwelcome and damaging to the essential long-term unity of the party but would be unconstitutional in itself. It would be contrary to the dem-

Other referendum news, page 2

## Official IRA leader shot dead

From Christopher Walker Belfast

One of two men killed in a spate of daytime shooting incidents in Belfast yesterday was Mr Billy McMillan, aged 47, commanding officer of the official IRA in Belfast.

Mr McMillan, one of the best-known veteran republicans still active in Ulster, was generally regarded as a moderating influence who played a big role in negotiating the truce between the Army and the official IRA which has lasted since 1972.

He was killed as he left a hardware shop near Falls Road with his wife, Mary. They were married early this year. Later, a spokesman for the Republican Clubs, the political wing of the official IRA, said Mr McMillan, who had recently left an election meeting to see, opposing any possible national executive action against the right to dissent from the majority view inside the party.

Continued on page 2, col 3

Commonwealth invites black Rhodesian leader Kingston, Jamaica, April 28. —Mr Michael Manley, the Jamaican Prime Minister, announced today that he had invited Bishop Muzorewa, the leader of the African National Council in Rhodesia, to the Commonwealth Prime Ministers' Conference this week. He would propose that Bishop Muzorewa should address the conference on the Rhodesian independence dispute, he said. Mr Manley told a press conference that he was also trying to arrange the attendance of Mr Joshua Nkomo and the Rev Ndababeni Sithole, who was recently released from detention in Rhodesia. Mr Manley, who will preside at the conference, said Bishop Muzorewa was already on his way to Kingston. —Reuter. Leaders gather, page 6

EEC man for Foreign Office Sir Michael Fallick, aged 53, Britain's permanent representative at the EEC in Brussels, will take over as Permanent Under-Secretary at the Foreign Office on the retirement of Sir Thomas Brimacombe later this year (our Diplomatic Staff writes). Sir Thomas reaches the retiring age, 60, in October.

Arkle man dies Tom Dwyer, the former Irish racehorse trainer who saddled Arkle to win three successive Cheltenham Gold Cups, died yesterday at his home in Kilsallaghan, near Dublin, after a short illness. He was 76.

MP's operation Mr Arthur Latham, Labour MP for City of Westminster, Paddington, who went into hospital at Romford, Essex, two weeks ago, will have an abdominal operation today.

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## HOME NEWS

## Government seeks to restrain pay rises, Mrs Williams says

From Hugh Clayton

Brighon

The Government is to press for "an adequate consensus of support" for restraint on income rises, Mrs Williams, Secretary of State for Prices and Consumer Protection, said yesterday.

"Incomes are increasing much faster than growth," she told the Institute of Grocery Distribution convention in Brighon. British incomes and productivity were low compared with those elsewhere in Europe.

"Our investment performance and our inflation performance are bound one with another," she said. Recovery would depend ultimately on investment. In the short run it depends on restraint.

"In a democracy, statutory controls are in the last analysis as voluntary as voluntary controls. So we have to find the basis of an adequate consensus of support. That will be the central task that we have to undertake in the next few weeks."

Food subsidies were reduced and their protection for poor families would be replaced with certain social security benefits. "We are a redistributive government."

The Government intended to ease the administrative burden of the complexities of the price code imposed on industry. Companies had responsibility to make the public understand the importance of investment. That had been achieved in France and Germany. The Government also intended to extend unit pricing and was reviewing the Trade Descriptions Act, 1968.

Although the EEC's common agricultural policy had been improved, it needed further change. She had called in Brussels for a review of its price levels and for more attention to be paid to the claims of consumers and retailers.

To those who argued that there was cheap food outside the EEC, she said: "Where are we supposed to get the cheap food from?" New Zealand wanted higher prices for the food she sent us, and in 1974 had sent us much less butter and cheese than she was allowed to.

Primary producers in general wanted higher prices. World food prices had gradually overtaken EEC levels. In an insecure world we could ill afford to move away from a secure source of supplies.

## Screening trials for cancer of the breast

Dr Owen, Minister of State, Health and Social Security, announced yesterday that he accepted the recommendation of a joint working group that a national breast cancer screening service was not justified.

In a parliamentary written reply he said he had accepted advice to organize substantial screening trials in certain areas to establish the optimum form of any service.

Two joint groups would advise his department on the design and execution of population screening trials and on the validity, safety and improvement of techniques.

The health departments would review with health authorities the need for breast diagnostic and treatment facilities and tell doctors of the services.

Speed train for regular service

British Rail's 125 mph high-speed train is scheduled to enter passenger service between Paddington and the West Country next Monday if final trials this week are satisfactory.

## Union leaders clash over social contract

By Paul Routledge

Labour Editor

The social contract was resolutely defended yesterday by moderate trade unionists but came under heavy fire from the left wing of the Labour movement as a "thinly disguised voluntary pay freeze".

In the most heartening support the Government has received for a long time in its fight against inflationary pay agreements, delegates to the annual conference at Eastbourne of the Union of Shop, Distributive and Allied Workers voted overwhelmingly against a 30 per cent demand for a £40 a week minimum wage and settled for a target of £35 for a 35-hour week for their negotiators.

Their decision followed an appeal by Lord Allen of Fallowfield, the union's general secretary, to back the wage restraint guidelines of the social contract despite the big pay deals won by miners and power workers.

A totally opposite point of view was voiced at the conference of the Technical and Supervisory Staff section of the Amalgamated Union of Engineering Workers, meeting in Edinburgh. Mr Barry Seager, the union's acting president, said:

"The social contract, requiring workers to limit their struggle against the consequences of the crisis, rests implicitly on the idea that those increases do cause the crisis. It is a thinly disguised voluntary pay freeze, and will no more help to solve Britain's problems than previous pay freezes."

The moderate view voiced by Lord Allen, a senior member of the TUC General Council who has represented the trade unions in talks with successive governments, was:

"We cannot afford to have the social contract wrecked by those who, through ignorance, fear, greed or political morality turn their backs on it and its provisions."

The shop workers' union had negotiated pay rises of up to £9 a week for workers with little as £20 a week, and those gains would have little or no meaning if they were whittled away by unions ignoring the guidelines laid down in the social contract, Lord Allen said. If the social contract failed, a statutory income policy would be imposed, and that would worsen the plight of lower-paid workers. Groups of workers who

## Child benefit revision from April, 1977

By Pat Healy

Social Services Correspondent

Cash allowances for all children in Britain will be introduced in April, 1977, under the Child Benefit Bill published yesterday. The new benefits will replace family allowances and child tax allowances, and will be paid to the mother.

There were indications last night that there might be a Commons backbench revolt to bring forward the date of implementation.

The new scheme will include all first or only children, adding seven million to the number receiving family allowances. The first children in one-parent families will receive family allowances as a first step in April 1976. The new benefit will be reviewed regularly, but it will not be automatically increased at the same time as social security benefits.

Mrs Castle, Secretary of State for Social Services, declined yesterday to say how much mothers will get, but said families would be left no worse off than under the present system of family allowances for second and subsequent children and child tax allowances for all children.

That implies that the benefits will be at least £2 a child. At present, a family with three children under 11 receives a net benefit of just over £6 a week.

Child tax allowances are to be phased out because they are graded according to age. Child benefits will be paid at a flat rate, irrespective of age, but the Bill will permit their grading at a later stage. Until tax allowances are phased out completely the "clawback" of 50p a child will continue.

The effect of the new benefits will be to reduce the take-home pay of fathers, who will progressively lose their child tax allowances, and to give mothers a tax-free benefit for all their children. Mrs Castle insisted yesterday that that was the correct thing to do when the two allowances were being merged.

The Bill was widely welcomed yesterday, but there was disappointment that it would not be implemented earlier. Mrs Castle attributed the delay to difficulties with the design of a new building to house the 2,000 extra staff needed in Washington New Town, on Durdham Road, and the need to identify three million children in one-child families.

needed special treatment should not have to rely on their muscle power to redress pay grievances. They should have their grievances put right on a once-for-all basis.

Benn address: Mr Benn, Secretary of State for Industry told the AUEW (Tass) conference that the Government intended the proposed public corporations in industry to be more flexible, democratic and publicly accountable (a Staff Reporter writes).

"We do not want huge monopoly corporations with large, glossy London headquarters stuffed with people planning how other people can be laid off work," he said.

The Ryder report on British Leyland had refuted the consistently misleading reports in the British press on industrial relations and the economy. A group of men, by no means members of the Tribune group, had identified the trouble at British Leyland not as a work-study labour force but as chronic lack of investment.

The real trouble was that the market economy had been unable to provide the level of investment needed, or the degree of workers' democracy the unions wanted to establish.

## Warnings of civil war in Ulster

Continued from page 1

afterwards. In one, a Roman Catholic railway worker was killed and a Protestant workmate badly injured when two men opened fire as they were constructing a new line in the Sandy Row area. Less than a mile away, a man was seriously hurt when his car ran out of control after being ambushed.

With so many feuds and sectarian disputes it is impossible always accurately to attribute an incident to a particular group. But the latest upsurge in violence has banished remaining hopes for a peaceful run-up to Thursday's ballot for the constitutional Convention.

After the savage killing of three Roman Catholic members of a dance club outside Lurgan late on Sunday, leading politicians, including Mr Brian Faulkner, yesterday raised the spectre of a full-scale civil war. Mr Faulkner, leader of the Unionist Party of Northern Ireland, said there were people in Ulster determined to start a civil war.

Mr Rees, Secretary of State for Northern Ireland, aware that the one static factor in Ulster's worsening security situation remains the Provisional IRA's ceasefire, yesterday sanctioned the release of 12 more republican prisoners, including the last eight women held without trial. The detaining of women has always been a cause of bitter resentment in the Roman Catholic community since the practice began in January, 1973.

## EEC REFERENDUM



Mr Gordon McLennan (left), general secretary of the Communist Party, launching his pamphlet opposing British membership of the Community, in London yesterday. With him is Mr Tom Bell, general secretary of the Young Communist League.

## Communists mobilize the workers

By a Staff Reporter

The Communist Party intends to mobilize workers and their families into voting "No" in the referendum with meetings and demonstrations in factories all over the country, Mr Gordon McLennan, its general secretary, said yesterday. He said:

"We are absolutely certain that if the Labour Party campaigns and if the TUC decide to campaign and involve their 10 million members and their families, a majority of the people will vote 'No' on June 5."

The Prime Minister, the Foreign Secretary and the pro-EEC majority in the Cabinet had had their positions repudiated at the Labour Party's one-day conference on Saturday.

Mr McLennan was speaking in London to mark the publication yesterday of a party pamphlet that argues that the question to be decided in the referendum is:

Is Britain going to be an independent, self-governing country whose people will have the right to make their own laws and decide their own future through an elected Parliament and the pressure they exert on it?

The pamphlet says that the EEC is "anti-planning, anti-working-class, anti-socialist", and that the case for leaving it is "overwhelming and an indispensable part of the fight for policies which will challenge the monopolies and open the way to socialism".

Mr McLennan argues that those in favour of continued membership pose "a false alternative—either stay in the Market or go it alone".

The real choice is whether we go with eight other countries—all subject to capitalist crises, all dominated by big multinational firms, all with growing unemployment—or whether we go with all the countries with whom we can trade on mutually beneficial terms.

Quit the Market—Join the World, by Gordon McLennan (Communist Party, 16 King Street, London WC2E 8BY, 15p).

"Cold war instrument": Dr Tony Chater, editor of the Morning Star, said his newspaper opposed the EEC as an instrument of the cold war:

up by a former civil servant. They have helped the Morning Star, the Communist Party newspaper, to rebut an argument put up by the British in Europe organization. They have assisted a trade unionist to the telephone in the night answering arguments against membership just put by a colleague.

The most frequent question on loss of sovereignty involves the dangers of bureaucrats in Brussels making our laws. The unit's standard answer is that the European Commission can take decisions only in certain areas, such as the common agricultural policy and common commercial policy. Important new legislation is controlled by ministers in the Council, with the British minister able to veto the veto. So long as Parliament can control its ministers, it can therefore control all important new laws enacted in Brussels.

Questions on food, answered mainly by Miss Celia Wright more, seconded from the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food, have centred on the relative levels of world and EEC prices, and disposing of surplus stocks. Miss Wright replies that it is hard to make direct comparisons. EEC prices used to be higher, but recently they have risen less quickly than world prices, thus providing us with, for example, cheaper sugar and cereals.

Many inquirers think that the "denaturing" of cereals involves destruction rather than adaptation for livestock feeding.

The unit's answers on food prices, EEC membership and the trade deficit, sovereignty, regional policy and industrial policy and the Common wealth are also available in written form.

## Heath warning of 'Berlin Wall' after withdrawal

Mr Heath, the former leader of the Conservative Party, said last night that if Britain were to withdraw from the EEC "the world would certainly try to build a barrier against the outside world."

"But they would be confronted by such powerful economic forces that they would be forced to build the barriers higher and higher until they had finally built an economic Berlin Wall around Britain." Within that wall would be a socialist state running a siege economy.

Mr Heath, who was speaking at Beaufort, Buckinghamshire, said earlier that except for a short period during the nineteenth century Britain had never been able to "go it alone."

Our Political Staff writes: Opponents of EEC membership were accused of distorting the facts about food by Mr Whitelaw, deputy leader of the Conservative Party, at a meeting of farmers in London.

The issue of food was no longer the same as when Britain joined the EEC and those against membership were very wrong to pretend it was, he said.

The common agricultural policy guaranteed farmers a stable income and relatively stable prices for the consumer.

Mr Renee Short, a member of the National Committee Executive of the Labour Party, said the British people were being subjected to a gigantic brainwashing operation.

I see it as a cold war alignment. I see it as the economic sector of Nato in Europe. It is dominated by the big multinationals, who are the driving force behind the cold war.

Although the Morning Star had adopted a trenchant anti-EEC line, Dr Chater did not regard it as markedly different from the Labour Party's political Tribune and the Labour Weekly.

Opposite view: The Archbishop of York, the Most Rev Stuart Blanch, puts forward the opposite view to that contained in the Communist pamphlet. He sees membership of the Community as a step towards world unity. In a diocesan message he says:

Membership of the European Community is not just a matter of political expediency. Those who conduct the debate on these issues alone do us a disservice. The more far-reaching issues whether we in this country are prepared to treat the needs and aspirations of other nations as seriously as we always treat our own.

Mr Bell said that Cator had written to all the Conservative Conservative associations and had had replies from 347. Of those, 274 had said they would not be taking an active part as constituency associations in supporting British membership of the EEC. Many of the 274 would be taking no part in the campaign; others would be presenting both sides of the argument to their members; a very few would be actively campaigning for Britain's withdrawal.

Mr Bell did not reveal how that at least some of the Conservative Conservative associations were to be kept in the campaign. He said the referendum goes on the basis of for or against Britain's membership of the EEC.

Mr Neil Maclean, MP for Salisbury, one of MPs who are going to Cator (Conservative) and the Treasury, deputy leader of the party, said that the Conservative Party had lost its confidence in the ability of the Conservatives to win the next election if it resorted to the view that a vote to take Britain out of Europe was a vote to let marxism in by the back door.

Cator surfaced yesterday as a group of anti-EEC Conservatives with a grudge against the party's leadership and the media. The complaint was that they were being given equal treatment with Mr Marten, who is also a member of the National Referendum Campaign, the anti-European Community umbrella organization, said it was "sterile bunkum" to place over an article by Mr Heath in a Sunday newspaper, the headline: "Will you be voting for a Russian takeover?"

Mr Marten said many millions of people who disliked the EEC would be terribly offended by that sort of remark. Mr Ronald Bell, a Conservative MP for Cator, said the Conservative Party was more divided on the European issue than the impression one got by listening to the leaders.

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## Tories accuse leader of smear campaign

By Michael Barber

Political Editor

The Conservative leaders came under attack from a small group of their supporters yesterday for carrying what was said to be a "communist smear" over the European Community.

Mr Neil Maclean, MP for Salisbury, one of MPs who are going to Cator (Conservative) and the Treasury, deputy leader of the party, said that the Conservative Party had lost its confidence in the ability of the Conservatives to win the next election if it resorted to the view that a vote to take Britain out of Europe was a vote to let marxism in by the back door.

Cator surfaced yesterday as a group of anti-EEC Conservatives with a grudge against the party's leadership and the media. The complaint was that they were being given equal treatment with Mr Marten, who is also a member of the National Referendum Campaign, the anti-European Community umbrella organization, said it was "sterile bunkum" to place over an article by Mr Heath in a Sunday newspaper, the headline: "Will you be voting for a Russian takeover?"

Mr Marten said many millions of people who disliked the EEC would be terribly offended by that sort of remark. Mr Ronald Bell, a Conservative MP for Cator, said the Conservative Party was more divided on the European issue than the impression one got by listening to the leaders.

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# Please, Tony, think again.



**1. Why risk wrecking an industry?** Why rush a Bill through Parliament when, through lack of consultation, it may be ill-conceived? Small specialist shiprepairers are as unlike big shipbuilders as garages are unlike British Leyland. Nationalisation would wreck us as surely as it would a garage.

**2. Why risk exports and jobs?** The majority of our business is with foreign ship owners. They point to our strike free record and our informal but efficient way of doing business and express amazement that anyone should seek to change our winning team. A significant number of these export customers have told us they will take their business to the continent if we are nationalised. The same must surely apply to some of the firms building warships for foreign governments. Why risk these exports and jobs?

**3. Why not be patient and save taxpayers' money?** The Government already owns about half the shipbuilding industry. Why not make that efficient first?

**4. Why not use the Industry Bill?** Those companies on the list needing money would soon come to the Government for help. By using the Industry Act, which caters for such companies, you could avoid the time-consuming exercise of putting another Bill through Parliament—and save taxpayers' money at the same time.

**5. Why not practise industrial democracy?** If you want people to believe in industrial democracy you must allow it to be practised. How can you nationalise any company without first having full consultation with both workers and management? Every one of the reasonable and pertinent questions asked by our shop stewards and management has been totally ignored in a head-long rush to spend taxpayers' money. Please, think again.



## Bristol Channel Ship Repairers Ltd.

*Fighting to save jobs, exports and taxpayers' money*



## HOME NEWS

# Housing associations buy 2,000 homes in Merseyside deal

By John Young  
Planning Reporter

Contracts were exchanged yesterday for the sale of more than two thousand houses on Merseyside to a group of housing associations. It is easily the largest transaction of its kind since last year's Housing Act opened up new sources of finance through the Housing Corporation.

The properties, mainly small nineteenth-century terrace houses, were previously owned by Standfield Properties, which is in the hands of the receiver.

The total purchase price is £1.2m, which works out at about £600 for each house, but improvements over the next five years will cost a further £15m. The deal was negotiated by the United Kingdom Family Housing Association, which was established in 1973 and has now bought more than four thousand

## A relaxed atmosphere and first names in a unique prison that helps the rehabilitation of murderers

### Where efforts are being made to keep the mind of the 'lifer' alert

By Peter Evans  
Home Affairs Correspondent

Kingston prison, Portsmouth, has proved itself sufficiently over four years for its population of 84 to be increased over the next year or so to the ultimate capacity of 140.

Officials say they know of no other prison in Europe, or even in the world that houses solely men sentenced to life imprisonment. The vast majority are murderers, and anyone, before the abolition of capital punishment, who had committed the crimes of some of them would have counted himself lucky to have escaped hanging.

Kingston answers the question how to treat some of the vast increased numbers of "lifers" in the prison system, now that hanging is abolished. Officials can remember when there were only 150 in the prison system, most of them convicted murderers. Now there are more than a thousand "lifers", and the number is expected to reach about 1,400 by 1980.

The prisoners with whom I talked reckoned on the whole that Kingston strengths outweigh its weaknesses, which are

really those of the indeterminate sentence.

Kingston's main strength is its deliberately relaxed atmosphere, with enough staff to know individuals really well. There have been no escape attempts. Within its outer net of security, doors inside the main buildings remain unlocked except at night, and apart from normal duties, such as in the workshop, prisoners are free to roam.

They can, for example, buy their own coffee from a shop and make it in their own modern kitchenette. But the evil of slopping out remains. The prisoners have no access at night to lavatories.

At first, the change can be disorienting for someone used to the strict routine of a more orthodox prison. "I have been here only a short time, and I am convinced I am dreaming," one prisoner said, "and that I shall be awakened by a sergeant major's voice shouting: 'Get out of bed'."

The prisoners are carefully selected to suit the prison. Prisoners and staff are on first-name terms. The men have

murdered members of their own families, or have hit too hard, too often or gripped too tightly. They are not hardened criminals, and Kingston is intended to aid rehabilitation.

In one wing, a prisoner has become an expert on historic uniforms, arguing with a knowledgeable officer, who gives the inmate encouragement about exact details of the apparel of a British light dragon at the time of Waterloo. He makes small armies of toy soldiers in his cell.

In another wing, a middle-aged man has learnt to read well enough to understand for the first time his daughter's letters, without someone reading them for him. He says she has been expecting him to live up to it, even if it is a false one.

Elsewhere, two other prisoners were waiting, after their own research, a script on African art that they were taping for automatic synchronization with illustrative slides. They are to be used by polytechnic students.

The good side of Kingston is that minds that would have atrophied are, like hope, being

encouraged to remain alert. Prisoners say that elsewhere people are negatively kept in. At Kingston staff strive positively to get people out.

The bad side is that prisoners say they do not know what is required of them to qualify for release on licence. Although the sentence is life, they all want parole.

One member of staff called the system of obtaining it "cruel". It was like the Grand National, with hopes increasing as fences were cleared but with the possibility of falling at the last one, he said. The policy of the Parole Board was not to give reasons adds to bitterness.

One prisoner said: "This prison is a sham. They give you a label that expects you to live up to it, even if it is a false one." Another likened it to a goldfish-bowl existence. Comments suggest that they are worried lest normal aggression and idiosyncrasies should be misconstrued and damn their chances of parole.

Nevertheless, experience is producing some sort of pattern. One prisoner said: "After you've murdered someone close,

you spend the first couple of years sick at heart and weeping. Then you exist in a dream world. Eventually you wake up and come to terms with what you have done."

That is part of what staff are watching for. Until a man knows himself well enough to acknowledge his worst side, he cannot do something positive to control it.

The figures so far suggest some success at this self-appraisal. Of 57 who were suitable for less restrictive treatment about half have achieved it, and 19 of those have been given dates of release. Only four out of 113 "lifers" who have passed through Kingston have been sentenced to other prisons. Two of those were for medical reasons, another wanted to be nearer home in the North, and only one was a disciplinary case.

Many in the penal field would like to see another Kingston in the North now, so that relatives and friends could more easily visit inmates. Some prisoners say visits, going for perhaps a year without one, until they can be moved tem-

porarily to a prison nearer home, to have them all in one batch.

There is also a case for developing the same sort of regime in a category C prison, the sort for inmates who cannot yet be trusted in open conditions but have the ability or resources to make a determined escape attempt. Kingston is one grade more secure, category B.

The availability of a category C prison regime of the same type would allow the suitable "lifer" to feel he could make progress, even if he had not been granted parole.

Kingston is also unique in the support it gets from the community through an organization of visits, the first of its kind in the country. "Kingston" visitors, as they are known, come in frequently to take part in debates, chess, sport and other activities.

But the local evening paper was carrying 19 letters about hanging when I visited the prison. Most of them, including a poem, were in favour of capital punishment, only one was against.

## Workman lost in bridge fall

By a Staff Reporter

Royal Navy divers searched Portsmouth harbour last night for a missing workman after a concrete beam had fallen into the water during construction of a bridge for the M27.

The missing man, Mr. Martin C. Everett, aged 19, of Elmstone Road, Southsea.

Another man was rescued from the water and resuscitated before being taken to hospital suffering from severe shock. He is Mr. William Hatherley, of Foxfield House, Landport, Portsmouth.

The accident happened at noon yesterday as a 75-ton precast concrete beam was being slipped into place on the centre span of the bridge over Tipnor Lake, in the upper reaches of the harbour.

The beam, 120ft long, was being manoeuvred with two cranes when another beam, which was being held by a derrick, fastened to the beam, was dislodged, and plunged into the water with the two men.

During the day a helicopter from the air/sea rescue service at Lee-on-Solent flew over the scene to help in the search. A Ministry of Defence police launch also took part in the search, and a team of divers from HMS Vernon, the submarine training establishment at Portsmouth.

A roll-call was made of other workers on the site to establish that no one else was missing.

Malcolm Sargent, who was building the bridge, said an inquiry would be held.

## Quieter airports unlikely, pilots say

By a Staff Reporter

Airliner pilots cannot do much more to reduce noise when taking off and landing. Pilots' Association technical spokesman told the Institution of Civil Engineers in London yesterday. It had to be accepted that airports would be very noisy for many years to come.

The spokesman, Captain P. H. A. Harper, vice-chairman of the British Air Line Pilots' Association technical committee, said American suggestions to make landing quieter by using a "two-segment glide approach" would not work, especially with Boeing 707s and VC10s. "Those who have tried it do not like it very much", he said.

It was contrary to the psychological training of pilots and required a steep descent at twice the normal speed, then pulling out into a shallow glide within only 20 seconds of touching the ground.

The pilot would have to go through a complete manoeuvre as the last minute, when there was also an increasing hazard of low-level air turbulence caused by big buildings near airports. "We have a very good idea nowadays of what wind does to buildings, but very little information as to what buildings do to wind", Captain Harper said.

A more promising theory, to reduce approach noise by using only partially extended flaps and keeping the undercarriage up until very late, was being tried by Lufthansa; but

that meant more work for pilots, who already had to fly in an extremely complex way.

Every international airport had noise-abatement procedures, many of them different. At O'Hare airport, Chicago, pilots had to weave between populated areas in a procedure of diagonal complexity known to them as "the snake-dance".

Some noise-abatement groups, thought pilots could fly along extremely narrow lanes, but after a right-angle turn an airliner's position could vary over a two-kilometre area. Radio beacons could have a margin of error as great as 2.5 nautical miles.

Quieter engines or radically new aircraft designs offered the only prospect of big noise reduction, Captain Harper said.

## 'Linch pin' in fraud case killed in crash

The prosecution withdrew yesterday from an £880,000 fraud case after explaining that the "linch pin" of four people charged had been killed in a road accident.

Mr David Williams, QC, for the Director of Public Prosecution, told magistrates at Newport, Gwent, that the case principally by feelings of common humanity, they would offer no evidence against the other three.

He said Miss Marlene Barrell, aged 37, of The Centre, Weston-super-Mare, was killed in 120 of his 420 boys and can give boarding places to 120.

Mr Edwards believes that is a vital contribution to the country's education service that would be cut down once the direct grant was withdrawn.

"If a referendum were to be held throughout the country on the simple issue, 'Do you wish to see our grammar schools abolished?', the result from all sections of society would be quite strongly in favour of their retention", he says.

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## Instant decree so wife can marry dying man

Judge Olson granted an immediate decree in London yesterday dissolving a marriage to enable the wife to marry a dying man.

Mr J. R. T. Rance said that Mrs Julia Wells, aged 39, of Alexandra Road, Southend-on-Sea, Essex, had parted from her husband in June 1972, and had been living with a man dying from cancer. He was anxious to regularize their position before he died.

Judge Olson held that Mrs Wells' marriage to her husband, Maurice, had broken down because they had lived apart for more than two years. Mr Wells consented to the decree. The judge said the decree could be made absolute forthwith.

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## Sixth-form centres plan opposed

From Our Correspondent Ipswich

A petition with 5,000 signatures opposing plans for three sixth-form education centres in Suffolk was handed yesterday to Sir Joshua Rowley, chairman of the county's education committee.

It had been organized by teachers, parents and the Ipswich Labour Party, all of whom maintain that to have three centres would be "educationally unsound and socially unacceptable".

They say that children living near one of the centres would not have to change school to make a sixth-form course, whereas pupils from other areas would have to change their entire educational routine. They want a single central centre set up in the Ipswich area.

Plans for the three centres have been drawn up by a council working party inquiring into comprehensive school reorganization.

School to close: St Edmund's preparatory school, Kesgrave, Suffolk, is to close because of inflation.

It had been hoped to merge it with Orwell Park preparatory school, Newmarket, but there was not enough money. The 50 pupils will be moved to similar schools in East Anglia.

Major John Mills, the headmaster said: "It is a case of a small school caught up in inflation."

Non-teaching governors: Newcastle upon Tyne education authority has been recommended to include non-teaching members of staff on the governing bodies of its schools (our Newcastle Correspondent writes).

The idea is that of Mr Derek Webster, chairman of the city's education committee, who wants to see cleaners, caretakers, cooks and secretaries elected as school governors.

"I see it as a logical step in the Labour Party's programme of democratization within city schools and colleges", Mr Webster said yesterday.

Leading article, page 17

## Maggie Smith granted divorce decree

Miss Maggie Smith, aged 40, the actress, was granted a divorce nisi in London yesterday against her husband, Robert Stephenson, the actor, because of adultery with an unnamed woman.

The couple married secretly in May, 1967, and appeared together in the film *The Prime of Miss Jean Brodie*. She received a £10,000 salary for her part in the film in 1970. It was in that year that she was also made a CBE.

They have two sons, Christopher, aged seven, and Toby, aged six. Miss Smith, of Queen's Elm Square, Chelsea, was given their care and control, while the couple have joint custody.

Call for new festival Mr Illyd Harrington, deputy leader of the Greater London Council, called yesterday for a second Festival of Britain. He is likely to push the idea at a seminar tomorrow. The first festival was in 1951.

port the "cow clause" proviso, under which some county councils allow a bull in fields crossed by rights of way, provided cows or heifers are present. Two Welsh counties allow bulls without restriction.

Instead of the cow clause, the council proposes a two-tier system: one tier for the uplands, where breeding cattle and sheep is the only possible economic activity; the other for the lowlands.

For the uplands a model by-law is proposed containing a "suckler cow clause". That would allow bulls to run only with suckler herds in the interests of beef production, provided their presence was advertised by signposts in fields with public rights of way. Wherever possible, there should be bull-free routes through particular beauty spots.

In the lowlands no bulls should be pastured in fields containing public rights of way with two exceptions. Farmers who find it difficult to change their system at once should be able to apply to divert footpaths temporarily.

And in a few farms in the lowlands topographically similar to the uplands (pimples in the plain), farmers should be able to seek an annual licence to run a beef bull, again only with a suckler herd, again in the interests of beef production.

By electing to work through the model by-law system the council has chosen a typical British compromise.

Sir Nigel Strutt, of Strutt and Parker Ltd, chairman of the advisory council, introducing the report in London yesterday, said: "I believe the council's recommendations strike a reasonable and equitable balance between the conflicting ideas and interests concerned."



Artists at the Non-Members' Vernal Day of the Royal Academy of Arts in London

## High Court judges may not sit in Salop

From Arthur Osman Shrewsbury

Salop is to protest to the Lord Chancellor's Department about the possible removal of the county from the High Court judges' circuit, which would mean that "red" judges going back to the thirteenth century.

Four years ago, under the Courts Act, Shrewsbury became a second-tier centre for the new Crown Court, which meant that "red" judges continued to hear more serious criminal cases.

Since January the responsibility and cost of providing judges' lodgings has rested with the Lord Chancellor's Department, and this year's estimated running costs of the house in Belmont, Shrewsbury, which has been owned by the county since 1825, is £5,580, including the wages of the steward and his wife.

Negotiations are in hand to continue the use of the house. A county council official said yesterday: "We thought we had arrived at acceptable

terms." But now a report to the county council states: "Although there has been no consultation and although no formal decision has yet been made or announced, it now appears possible that the grounds of saving the Treasury the cost of maintaining the lodgings, a decision may be taken to reduce Shrewsbury to a third-tier Crown Court centre for the new Crown Court, which means that 'red' judges will no longer sit there."

"This would mean that the more serious criminal cases would have to be dealt with outside the county."

The council is expected later this week to endorse a complaint to the Lord Chancellor against the possibility of such a change in the administration of justice in the county. It is felt that the Treasury approach, which appears to have given rise to the possibility, seems limited to a regard for a minor part of the cost and to take no account of the cost and convenience of the public, parties and practitioners.

## Three jailed for life for hostel man's murder

Three men were jailed for life at the Central Criminal Court yesterday for murdering William McPherson, aged 20, a London charity hostel resident, who was stabbed, tortured, and drowned, in a ditch on the Brighton Road last summer.

Michael Woodland, aged 36, a hostel supervisor, of Wellington Road North, Hounslow, Middlesex; David Johnson, aged 19, and Philip Holland, aged 28, both of Heston Chapel, Stockport, had denied the charge.

After a retirement of three hours and a half the jury of eight women and four men found Mr Woodland and Mr Holland guilty unanimously and Mr Johnson guilty by a majority of 11 to one.

Mr Woodland and Mr Holland were also given concurrent three-year jail sentences for assaulting Mr McPherson, and Mr Johnson was given 12 months for a similar offence.

## Boat business closed after three boys die

From Our Correspondent Northampton

A boat hire business has closed its business after the drowning of three boys whose bodies were recovered from the Nene at the weekend. Eight days previously their hired motorboat was found damaged and abandoned against a weir in an old section of the river at Northampton.

Mr Tony Watts, aged 28, the proprietor, says the lives of other children will be in danger until the old section is sealed.

The borough council's leisure and amenities department said yesterday: "We will take the matter up with the Anglian Water Authority to consider the possibility of constructing a barrier across this section of the river."

Crash damages of £77,500

Mr Raymond Scott, aged 2, of Somerset Avenue, Rochford, Essex, was awarded damages of £77,500 in the High Court yesterday for injuries he sustained when his car was crushed by a one-ton crane knocked from the top of a lorry as it went under a railway bridge at Vange, Essex in February, 1970.

The agreed damages were awarded by Judge BRSI Ltd, Coventry, which admits liability for the accident, which Mr Scott's father was fatally injured.

Train driver is cleared

Albert Underhill, aged 50, express train driver, cleared by magistrates, Sedgemoor, Somerset, yesterday of manslaughter. The bench ruled that there was no case for Mr Underhill, of Market Street, Exeter, to answer, on the death of Mr Will. Welland, aged 46, a train guard of Exeter, who died when express goods train hit stationary goods train at Bridgwater.

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(Details of our next sales, page 12)

Sotheby's







## OVERSEAS

# Dysentery among 610 confined in Phnom Penh embassy prompts French appeal to secure release

From Richard Wigg  
Paris, April 28

The French Government has lost all contact with its embassy in Phnom Penh, which has been isolated by Khmer Rouge troops for the past 10 days, it was stated today.

An epidemic of dysentery has broken out among the 610 French and foreign nationals confined in the embassy grounds and the Government launched a series of urgent diplomatic appeals in various capitals, including Peking and Hanoi, to obtain their immediate release.

It appealed to Dr Waldheim, the United Nations Secretary-General, to intervene and also approached the Soviet Union, East Germany, India and Pakistan, whose diplomats accredited to Phnom Penh are among the 610 in the embassy grounds, to support the appeals from Paris.

In Peking, France also approached representatives of Prince Sihanouk's Royal Government of National Union. When Mr Sauvagnargue, the Foreign Minister, saw Mr Vo Van Sung, the North Vietnamese Ambassador in Paris, about the Vietnam situation this afternoon, he also took up the serious plight of those in the Phnom Penh embassy.

The 610 people include a Scottish medical team working

for the International Red Cross. They have been prevented from obtaining food or medical supplies since the Khmer Rouge expelled all Cambodians who had sought refuge there immediately after the capital fell.

The embassy's contact with the outside world had been by a single telegraph key and transmitter, which provided only sketchy information.

The Elysée indicated that no direct appeal had been addressed to Prince Sihanouk himself.

France has received no satisfactory explanation from the Khmer Rouge on why its embassy has been kept isolated.

But the Elysée explained that it was the local authorities in the Cambodian capital who had cut communications. They last functioned on Saturday.

New York, April 28.—Dr Waldheim has asked the Cambodian authorities "to facilitate measures to alleviate the present situation of foreigners cut off in the embassy, a United Nations spokesman said today.

—AP.

Bangkok, April 28.—Cambodia's new pro-communist rulers today confirmed that Prince Sihanouk is to remain head of state and announced the outline of an uncompromisingly neutralist foreign policy.

The announcements were

made over Phnom Penh radio in a speech by Mr Khieu Samphan, leader of the Khmer Rouge forces that seized the capital.

Observers said Mr Samphan appeared to warn China, the Soviet Union and North Vietnam against interfering in Cambodia's internal affairs when he said: "We must work together against the old and new imperialists, against the former colonialists and neo-colonialists, to achieve true independence, peace, justice and development."

He said the decision to retain the prince was made by a special national congress of 311 delegates which met for three days last week. It was also decided to retain Mr Penn North, Prime Minister in the prince's Peking-based government.

The congress decided both should keep their jobs "because of their role as great revolutionary leaders and nationalists during the Cambodian liberation war," Mr Samphan said.

He added: "Cambodia will not allow any foreign bases on its territory, will not interfere in the internal affairs of other countries, will defend itself against any hostile acts by other countries, and will cooperate with the peoples of Asia, Africa and Latin America as well as with the United Nations to achieve peace and justice."

—Reuters.

## US senators demand activity over evacuation

From Fred Emery

Washington, April 28

The bombing and shooting in Saigon, if it worsens, could provoke President Ford to send in troops to protect the final evacuation.

There was no official word of it today, but it suggests that confirmation will come only once it begins. But the Saigon news intensified the scare on Capitol Hill, and demands were made for President Ford to pull out all remaining Americans immediately.

Only the Senate was in session, and leaders of both Democrats and Republicans urged Mr Ford to act now. In order to send in the troops "legally," the President still needs final House approval of the Bill granting him limited authority to waive prohibition on American military action in Indo-China.

The House will not convene in full session until tomorrow. However Administration officials have left no doubt that in crisis Mr Ford will act, and leave Congress to complete the formalities later.

The Pentagon was unable to offer public clarification on the bombing of Tan Son Nhut airport in Saigon. One source there said that the American-built A37 jet fighter-bombers appeared to have specific wing tanks, suggesting they had come from the communist side, but there is no confirmation. The fact that the aircraft landed afterwards in Vietcong territory leaves the identity of the attackers unclear, since detailed Saigon air force pilots would have done as much.

The Pentagon could, however, state for the first time officially that Vietnamese refugees would initially be housed at three large military bases when they arrived in the United States via Guam.

An Air Force base in Florida, an Army base in Arkansas, and a Marine base in California were each designated. They are said to be capable of housing up to 20,000 refugees each for some 90 days, the first arrivals would come within 48 hours.

There are many expressions of resentment among Congressmen—mostly Democrats—at the arrival of the Vietnamese, and fears that they will worsen the unemployment situation.

## Neutral statement after N Korean visit to Peking

From David Bonavia

Peking, April 28

The recent visit to China by President Kim Il Sung of North Korea does not appear to have led to any change in his country's neutral attitude on the Sino-Soviet dispute.

A joint statement on the visit issued today made no reference to "revisionism" or "social imperialism," the euphemisms the Chinese normally use to criticize the Soviet Union. This was evidently in deference to President Kim's wish to treat Moscow and Peking even-handedly, despite their differences.

Marshall Kim is expected to visit the Soviet Union and East Europe soon, but no date has been announced and in the meantime he has returned to Pyongyang.

Diplomatic observers believe it likely that China agreed to help North Korea out of its present balance of payments

difficulties but this matter was referred to in the statement.

References to the need for reunification of Korea were not unduly vehement, probably reflecting agreement between Marshal Kim and the Chinese leaders that the time is not ripe for any drastic action to change the status quo.

Flags in Peking flew at half-mast today in mourning for Queen Sissowath Kossamak, mother of Prince Norodom Sihanouk, who died here last night. The Prince had delayed his departure for Cambodia because of his mother's illness.

However, he has also cast doubt recently on whether the Khmer Rouge will stand by their offer to let him be head of state for the new state.

Prince Sihanouk has said he intends to take his mother's body to the ancient capital of Angkor Wat.

## Vientiane forces withdraw from strategic crossroads

Vientiane, April 28.—Vientiane forces have again evacuated their positions at the strategic Sala Phoukhoun crossroads north of Vientiane after intense Pathet Lao bombardment.

Colonel Soumboun Vongprachan, of the Vientiane side, said that on Saturday night the pro-communist Pathet Lao forces fired more than 200 rounds of artillery fire at the crossroads. The defenders had no choice but to leave the road junction and three other positions, since they were forced to do last week.

In the earlier incident they came under attack in the most bitter clashes between armed forces of the two ruling factions since the two sides signed the Lao ceasefire agreement and formed a joint coalition government more than a year ago.

The Colonel did not say whether the airfield at the crossroads, 92 miles north of the capital, had also been evacuated. Fighting broke out at the crossroads eight days ago. The Vientiane forces were ousted by the Pathet Lao from the junction and the airstrip near by but both were later recaptured.

The junction is the point where the road between Vientiane and the capital of Luang Prabang is joined by Highway 7, the main road from

Laos across the much-contested Plain of Jars. The Colonel said the Pathet Lao bombardment of the crossroads continued into Sunday morning, when the Vientiane forces withdrew.

The fighting has gone on despite instructions on Saturday that the coalition government, in which both the Pathet Lao and the Vientiane side are represented, that it should end. Both sides were ordered to return to their former positions so that the mixed peace commission could send a joint team to control the ceasefire.

Colonel Vongprachan said the Pathet Lao was determined to maintain control of the Sala Phoukhoun region.

"We have tried to contact our Pathet Lao counterparts here to prepare the dispatch of a mixed team to Sala Phoukhoun, but the Pathet Lao authorities have replied they are awaiting instructions from Sam Neua," he added.

Sam Neua, in north-east Laos near the North Vietnamese border, is the Pathet Lao's headquarters.

Since hostilities broke out in the region on April 14 the Vientiane side is reported to have lost five positions on Route 7 and four around the crossroads on Route 13, the main road from Vientiane to Luang Prabang.—Reuters.



Mr Wilson is met by Dr K. A. McNeill, Minister of Health in Jamaica, where the Prime Minister is attending the Commonwealth Prime Ministers' Conference.

## Commonwealth hopes on Rhodesia

From David Spanier  
Diplomatic Correspondent  
Kingston, Jamaica, April 28

A strong sense that the net is tightening round Rhodesia was evident as Commonwealth heads of government arrived here today for the opening of their conference tomorrow.

In addition to Bishop Muzorewa, who will be invited to address the conference as leader of the African National Council in Rhodesia, Mr Michael Manley, the Jamaican Prime Minister, is in favour of paratroopers to deal with the problem.

Mr Arnold Smith, the Commonwealth Secretary-General, radiating confidence, said he was optimistic that significant progress would be made on the Rhodesian question.

"My optimism is based on the transformed strategic situation in southern Africa," he said. "Ten years ago I was in favour of paratroopers to deal with the problem. We did not have the capacity to strangle Rhodesian trade unless Portugal went along with sanctions. Now we do have that capacity."

The focus on Rhodesia, which is bound to dominate the leaders' discussions in the first part of the week, may distract some attention from Mr Wilson's proposals on international trade. Nevertheless,

the idea of trying to agree new principles for organizing trade in raw materials and foodstuffs remains the fundamental economic objective of the Commonwealth at this meeting.

The decision whether to step up sanctions, and mobilize financial support for Mozambique in closing outlets to Rhodesia, will depend on the advice of President Kaunda, of Zambia, and President Nyerere, of Tanzania, who have most influence on the matter.

Mr Callaghan, the Foreign Secretary, is having a special meeting tonight with the foreign ministers of the African countries most closely concerned, to work out a joint approach.

The Commonwealth sanctions committee has suggested that United Nations aid to Mozambique might well be urged by Commonwealth countries, to compensate the new Frelimo regime for the drastic loss of earnings which would result from applying sanctions.

Traffic might be diverted through South Africa, but the sanctions committee argues that this would entail higher transport costs, thus further distorting Rhodesia's economy. The onus on providing false documentation would fall exclusively on South Africa.

In addition to aid to Mozambique, the committee

make three other recommendations.

1. All Commonwealth Governments should put pressure on

Japan to cease its trade with Rhodesia, and on the United States to stop imports of Rhodesian chrome.

2. Commonwealth countries should discourage their citizens from emigrating to Rhodesia, particularly by stopping the transfer of funds.

3. Commonwealth countries should try to stop Rhodesians travelling on other passports to attend international events.

Mr Smith emphasized that everyone was hoping for a quick agreement to achieve a peaceful transition to majority rule in Rhodesia. "The prospects for early progress are very good, although it is always possible for obdurate people in a position of power to prevent the transition," he said.

He hoped the Commonwealth would approve an increased training programme for Rhodesian Africans, 1,300 of whom had been given training in recent years. He also favoured Commonwealth training for Namibians, to prepare them for running their own country

## Mr Eban sees little danger of new war

By Louis Heren

Mr Abba Eban, the former Israel Foreign Minister, said in London yesterday that there was little prospect of war in the Middle East, because of the failure of Dr Henry Kissinger's shuttle diplomacy. He also looked forward to the Geneva conference with less apprehension than did the American Secretary of State.

He was not worried about Soviet attitudes. Mr Gromyko, the Soviet Foreign Minister, accepted the identity and sovereignty of Israel, and the legitimacy of Israel's 1957 borders.

The Soviet Union seemed to be signalling to the United States that its positions were not far apart, and that they should get together. It was possible that Dr Kissinger might first go to Moscow before proceeding to Geneva in an attempt to reach a joint Soviet-American position on the Arab-Israeli conflict.

Mr Eban's impression was that Mr Gromyko's objective was to reach a joint position on the Arab-Israeli conflict, which was based on United Nations resolutions 242 and 338.

The Geneva conference would be concerned with a territorial settlement for the West Bank and it was therefore necessary to reach an internal consensus before the negotiations began. A consensus was possible as long as the PLO did not want a West Bank state to continue revolutionary violence against Israel.

What was required of the Palestinians was a basic change of ideology. He was doubtful that Mr Yasser Arafat, the PLO leader, would ever recognize the existence of Israel, but as a result of the transfer of power, the PLO might be prepared to be pragmatic and accept what they could get.

Mr Eban, who was in Washington last week as a special emissary for his govern-

ment, appeared to be not measured and dismayed by his visit. He did not think that the balance of power in the Middle East would be adversely affected by the American reaction from Vietnam.

Congress was moving toward a new selection of members somewhere between universal intervention and universal isolation. It was reaching for a new equilibrium which could be good for Israel.

Israel was everything Vietnam was not. It was democratic, not corrupt, and willing to fight its own battles. The United States could reach equilibrium with Israel.

Mr Eban never believed in the Russian disunity. Dr Kissinger, the issue was what was to happen in the future, and not what was wrong in the past. It was disturbing to find that the Secretary of State still looked backwards. It was sterile.

Congressmen had a feeling that there had been a much over-reaction. Dr Kissinger was being too personally emotional. It was not Greek tragedy. Failure was not defeat.

The United States' position strengthened its position Arab capitals while still looking to Washington and not to Moscow. The Soviet-American dialogue continued.

There was no reason to be frightened of Geneva, even if representatives of the Palestine Liberation Organization (PLO) were present. They would have to recognize the rules of the game, which was based on United Nations resolutions 242 and 338.

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## West Bank Arab leaders split over Riyadh visit

From Our Own Correspondent  
Jerusalem, April 28

A dispute has broken out between West Bank Arab leaders over a proposal to send a united delegation of mayors and chamber of commerce

representatives to Riyadh to express condolences over the death of King Feisal and to congratulate his successor, King Khalid. The objections have been raised mainly because the delegation is expected to visit Amman on the way to Saudi Arabia and to hold talks with King Husain.

Shalikh Ali Jaabari, mayor of Hebron, has taken a leading part in organizing the delegation and has won support from municipal leaders in Judea and from some in the Gaza Strip and north Sinai. But those around Nablus are suspicious of the motives behind the visit.

They argue that it may be interpreted as a challenge to the Arab leaders' decision in Rabat that the Palestine Liberation Organization (PLO) is the only spokesman for Palestinian people, especially if political issues are raised with King Husain.

It had been reported that delegation might seek to discuss the chances of some form of autonomous administration for the West Bank and the Gaza Strip, a view based on the PLO's position in the Arab League.

Supporters of the PLO in northern towns claim that would be a direct contravention of the Rabat decision. They point out that the PLO already expressed its concerns to Saudi Arabia on behalf of Palestinians.

In an attempt to allay criticism, Shalikh Jaabari given a pledge that the delegation would not raise political issues in Amman or Riyadh. It is understood, however, individual members will be free to raise problems of areas.

Arab leaders in east Jerusalem have declined an invitation to join the delegation.

## Prince Charles flies on to Winnipeg

From Our Correspondent  
Ottawa, April 28

The Prince of Wales is to fly tomorrow from Winnipeg to the Northwest Territory, 200 miles southward across the Great Slave Lake to Hay River and after a busy three-hour stop there, on to Winnipeg, 1,200 miles to the south-east.

He leaves Canada on Wednesday morning after an 11-day visit.

The formality which marked the first three days of his tour, in Ottawa, dissipated after Prince Charles reached Canada's northland where he has been since last Wednesday.

In the north, he enjoyed himself with snowmobile and dog sled rides, a visit to a show house, a scuba dive beneath the Arctic ice, and other activities.

Prince Charles also visited a gold mine, had lunch with some bush pilots and watched a variety of native games at Yellowknife.

A highlight of the trip came on Saturday when he donned an inflatable suit, especially imported from Sweden, and dived for 28 minutes under the ice at Resolute Bay, 600 miles inside the Arctic Circle.

Our Adelaide Correspondent writes: A car carrying Princess Anne and Captain Mark Phillips to Government House here today narrowly escaped a collision. A car ahead of the royal limousine stopped suddenly; and the royal car finished only inches from the driver's back bumper. Their four-day south Australian tour will be concluded tomorrow.

## All political prisoners freed in Chad

Ndjamena, April 28. Chad Higher Military Council has freed all political prisoners, General Felix Mathieu, the Council's chairman, announced here today.

At a rally attended by about 20,000 people in the city square, General Mathieu said the Council had freed 172 political prisoners, who had been detained in the past.

Most of those freed were members of the Chad Front which fought against the French in the 1960s. Tombalbaye, who was ousted during a military coup on April 13, Agency Press.

## Argentines de ultimatum from death sq

Buenos Aires, April 28. Argentina's personal ultimatum to the Argentine military to be world are believed to be today, defying a rigid death squad's ultimatum leave the country or die.

The 48-hour ultimatum which expired last night issued by the Argentine Communist Alliance, which has killed dozens since the death of Juan Peron last July.

The AAA said the ultimatum, among them writers and directors Jewish Marxists.—Reute

## Dodging bombs at Tan Son Nhut airport

From William Ellsworth-Jones  
The Sunday Times  
Bangkok, April 28

It was like airport departure lounges all over the world. It was take-off time, but Air Vietnam's flight 786 from Saigon to Bangkok was late. With the war closing in, the passengers waiting to get out of Saigon to safety were especially irritated.

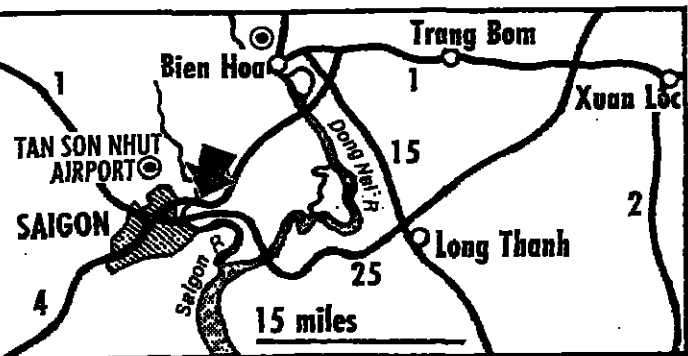
A fighter-bomber made a low pass over the airport, low enough to stir me from Graham Greene's *Honorary Consul* and low enough to stir the curiosity of my fellow-passengers.

Suddenly the unthinkable happened. The aircraft started to attack the runway. Tan Son Nhut airport was being bombed and rocketed.

So unexpected was the attack that the fighter-bomber pulled away without a shot being fired. Finally, in the last stages of the war, Saigon was getting its first taste of what it was like to be bombed.

It was difficult in the panic of rushing from the top floor of the airport terminal to count the number of bombing runs made. From my ungainly position, flat on my stomach under a bench on the ground floor, it seemed that there were three aircraft that made three runs.

The attack appeared to last about 15 minutes, but it was not until the third run that we heard the welcome sound of sporadic anti-aircraft fire.



Arrow indicates the river bridge on the Bien Hoa road where communist forces engaged South Vietnamese troops only three miles from the centre of Saigon.

The airport was saved by a seemingly endemic lack of accuracy among Vietnamese pilots. It was only recently that a rebel South Vietnamese pilot fell miserably in his attempt to hit a sitting-duck target, President Thieu's palace.

In today's attack, where again the pilots were not met by anti-aircraft fire, the runway was missed.

As South Vietnamese Air Force jets took off for a belated flexing of their muscles, about 10 minutes after the attack, we emerged to survey the damage. About 200 yards from the terminal, one of the Chinooks was on fire and so was a C130 transport aircraft that looked as though it had been cut in half.

In one of the fighter compounds, it seemed from the

fire that probably a couple had been hit, but it was impossible to count the exact number.

One bomb had set fire to the runway perimeter but, remarkably, both runways appeared untouched. Happily our Air Vietnam Boeing 707, which once served as former President Thieu's presidential jet, still sat untouched in the open, only 100 yards from the burning C130.

Helicopters patrolled the perimeter, fire engines tried to salvage what they could. The serviceable Chinooks hurried to the shelters they had not bothered about earlier. Our pilot, Captain Huynh Huu Hien, looked at the fire around the perimeter, waited for about half an hour and then decided that the time had come to leave Saigon.

## Doctor allowed to enter besieged consulate

Continued from page 1

back, move back," the police appealed politely at first, and then with Alsatian dogs to help them.

A traffic policeman turned on the loudspeaker of his patrol car to urge the crowd to move out of danger. As his voice boomed out, there was a burst of automatic fire from the consulate offices. The crowd scurried for safety, trampling on each other.

At 2.30 pm a police officer told the terrorists through a loudspeaker: "The ambassador is on his way. We will hold our fire until he gets here."

Later there was a call for a doctor and a medical man, identified only as Dr Gottlieb, entered the building. Through a walkie-talkie he reported that the hostages included four white women and two children, and that three of the hostages were wounded. He said the terrorists had wired them to hand-grenades.

One of the wounded was an Israeli security officer, Mr David Proter, who had a bullet wound in his leg. Dr Gottlieb asked for "lots of morphine," oxygen and water. A little later a red rope was lowered from the office windows and a first aid box hauled up.

Dr Gottlieb said later the gunmen had taken two children to the window and threatened to shoot them if the police snipers did not stop firing immediately. For nearly two hours there

was a lull, then suddenly at 3.50 pm there was another burst of fire, but the police did not reply. Ten minutes later there were two more bursts of fire, and two young women were carried unconscious on stretchers through the back entrance of a 30-storey bank building opposite the consulate.

As darkness fell, more police and troops took up strategic positions. The area round the consulate was cordoned off and a searchlight beam was played on the building. It was announced that the Rand Show in Johannesburg, South Africa's big industrial and agricultural exhibition, would be closed tomorrow.

A fresh burst of firing from the consulate came at 8 pm, and a terrorist who appeared briefly at a window was said by police to look like a Japanese. The South African Broadcasting Corporation reported that at least three of the gunmen were thought to be members of the Japanese "Red Army" group.

Food and blood plasma was hoisted up to the offices just after 8 pm and Mr Uuna, the Japanese envoy, was reported to have arrived on the scene and opened negotiations with the terrorists. Police said demands by the terrorists included an air force helicopter, with a capacity for 20 passengers.

The hostages are reported to be the entire staff of the consulate and two of their children.

## Soviet TV buys BBC serial of Dickens story

The 150 million television viewers in the Soviet Union will be able to see a number of BBC drama and documentary programmes later this year, including adaptations of *David Copperfield* and *The Moonstone*.

The package deal, the biggest since the sale of *The Forsyte Saga*, also includes a *World About Us* study of lemur in Madagascar and two programmes from the series *Wildlife Safari to Ethiopia*.

The sale to Soviet Television came within the financial year ending on March 31, 1975, in which BBC Enterprises achieved gross sales worth £5m. Television exports accounted for £4m of the total figure.

## Propaganda war to be ended

From Our Correspondent  
Rawalpindi, April 28

Mr Bhutto, the Pakistan Prime Minister, has written to Mrs Gandhi, the Indian Prime Minister, agreeing that they should stop the propaganda war against each other. The letter was sent to Delhi last week.

Mr Bhutto and Mrs Gandhi have exchanged three letters since the American decision in November, 1974, to lift the embargo on the sale of weapons

to Pakistan and India. These letters, it is believed, were concerned with efforts to resuscitate the Simla agreement on improving relations between the two countries.

A suggestion to Pakistan and Afghanistan by an unnamed third country that they should stop the radio propaganda war has been rejected by Kabul but accepted by Pakistan, according to Pakistan official sources.

Pakistan has accused the Afghan Government of using its official radio to fan feelings of hatred

against Mr Bhutto and Government among the Pashtun and No Frontier Province (NWFP). It is expected that the Government will direct rule of NWFP for a month and allow a government to be formed.

People's Party, which has seats of 40 in the National Assembly, has been elected, will head a coalition government in the province.



## Fashion

by Prudence Glynn

All done  
h buttons

dual dress tells us so much about national identity, it follows that national dress can be read as a key to national identity (however induced) of a nation. We are confident that we have never had one style of dress in the eyes of the world. We are confident that we have never had one style of dress in the eyes of the world. We are confident that we have never had one style of dress in the eyes of the world.

These varieties of the pearl-button ensembles which give names to the lives and hard times of the world. The lives and hard times of the world. The lives and hard times of the world.

! In Pearl Binder's book to be out next week by Jupiter Books. Miss Lady Elwyn Jones, wife of a hancellor lived for years in and her "social record" of the world is loving and detailed. To their status is documented.

Pearly Royalty is a hereditary of Cockneys who, in their spare time, collect money for charities and their attendance at the fairs have carried their fame to the world. Pearlies are or gypsies. Not all Pearlies are or are all costers Pearlies. much older than Pearlies. It who have contributed Royalty to the world. The Oxford English first mentions Pearlies by name.

apt of Pearly Royalty via costers comes from deep within the theatrical consciousness, with its instant elevation of rank in response to performance—for a knight of a humble gentleness, a doughty effort on the battle-humble origins (Wolsey of a butcher) were no bar, a good public relations sense, very VIII, gathered popularity of the purely honorary title of xton, sans cutcheon or dowry, archer. East End Londoners to this attractive idea and tests in which the prize was a title. But the trade of coster was innately tough and brave man to defend their fragile life. Binder cites yet another coster king, that of A. L. rich is that the "Monarch" of the ancient Lord of Misrule, an annual permitted disorder.

really separates costers from the public eye is their dress of the nineteenth century English people, in common with working many other countries, dressed to their trades. Since costers highest in the ranks of street 1834 Charles Dickens can cite sonner's outfitters, where pearly already used to decorate the Above all the dress is practical men, long hair in front, and a staid or plush flapped tie-up cap. Binder thinks, may have originating the Russian and Polish emigrés. It was practical because heavy ad to be carried on the head. scarves impeded progress (and expensive?) they wore waistcoats, duroy jobs buttoned up to the d with fustian sleeves and large pockets. Coster trousers were made of (broad-ribbed corduroy) and original fit-and-flares if you disavow the stout boots and their silk handkerchiefs, prefer the brightest colours, worn around (its lack was deemed the greatest

coster girls, who were expected to



Top: Mrs Marie-Louise Rackley sewing the claret velvet suit for her great-niece to wear tonight. Left: One of the earliest pearly dresses—a coster girl of about 1890. Above: Mrs Rackley in full rig outside her home.

Photographs by Harry Kerr

of flowers, signifying the coster song made famous by Kate Carney, *Three Pots a Shilling*, which was sung at a memorial service for Bill Davidson, who was Pearly King of Newham, on May 4 at St Martin in the Fields, the traditional Pearly Church. Originally, the idea was to "smother" the material so that none of its poor threads showed under the snow of buttons. Dresses and suits so embroidered are tremendously heavy—only Pearly tore his muscles hiking his 60lb of regalia around on a fund raising tour—but the greatest threat to Pearlies is not the welfare state's intervention in their charitable role, but the decline in the availability of pearl buttons. Mrs Marie-Louise Rackley—whose mother, Mrs Beatrice Marriott, was Festival Pearly Queen of London and, until her daughter took over, Pearly Queen of Finsbury, recalls that the buttons used to cost 2s 6d for 12 cards, each card with 144 buttons on it. Now there is a scramble whenever an old-established haberdasher closes down, for there may just be pearl buttons in his stock.

On the older costumes many of the buttons are dyed—blue, yellows and green and reds being produced by steeping in a tin of hot Fairy or Drummond domestic colourers. Crochet cotton, which used to hold the buttons in place, has given way to strong nylon thread, and Mrs Rackley buys Spanish straw hats on holiday to decorate for her constant summer appearances as secretary of the Pearly Kings and Queens Association. Both her husband and brother-in-law help with the buttoning, though neither are Pearlies, and had made parts of the claret velvet suit their great-niece will wear to present a bouquet to the Queen Mother at a party in the House of Lords tonight.

Mrs Rackley, rosy, dark, warm and the sort of woman who makes one feel this country may yet survive, lives not in the East End but in a neat bungalow in Upminster. The Pearly love of finery is evident even here, though—silver green brocade wallpaper, claret brocade armchairs and lots of small treasures in a glass cabinet, along with a row of medals for good works which would not shame a general, and Princess Marie-Louise's armband, a presentation made from real Royalty to mark the efforts of a less conventional dynasty.

Mrs Rackley has been sewing and mending and curling ostrich feathers (with a knife) for tonight's big occasion, but there is nothing nostalgic or out of date about her attitude to Pearlies now. They can still perform a community service and she is prepared to help with that. At the same time she is realistic. On account of the cost of things, she has persuaded her husband to exchange the flowers in the garden in Upminster for vegetables.

## BUSINESS NOTICES

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On the England team, the Leeds club has a strong chance of winning the English Cup. The club has a strong chance of winning the English Cup. The club has a strong chance of winning the English Cup.

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A raised arm confirms Spurs' continued existence in the top division. Goal No. 2 by Chivers (teaping).

## Spurs stay up with spirit and style

By Geoffrey Green  
Tottenham Hotspur

Leeds United 2 Tottenham Hotspur 4

Tottenham Hotspur have escaped the execution block of relegation and it is Tottenham who must go down to the second division with Chelsea and Carlisle United. That was the message at White Hart Lane last night when Spurs won an exhilarating match of six goals against Leeds United.

This was a ding-dong battle and nothing like the game one had expected to be, harking back to the 1960s when Tottenham were a team to be feared from beginning to end.

No doubt it was a flashing opening goal by Knowles—Tottenham's hero of the night—after only four minutes with a 20-yard free kick through the Leeds wall that released all the tensions.

Not that the end of Knowles' contribution. He was involved one way and another in each of Tottenham's four goals, and it was Leeds, coming back from 3-0 down, who kept the night singing to the end as they pulled back to 3-1 and then 4-2, ending with a sensational last-minute goal.

A large section of the 50,000 crowd stayed with an upsurge of loyalty to sing on the terrace a full quarter of an hour after it was all over. This was the electric atmosphere that used to run through Tottenham in the days of Blanchflower and company.

Spurs stayed up with spirit and a style not seen all through a season which has been their most anxious since they returned to the top drawer 25 years ago.

The win came in the form of a third-minute "gift" from Kelly. His sixty-yard pass was his own personal area was gratefully controlled by Paddon. From 20 yards he lashed a left foot shot far too hard for Barrett even to consider saving it.

This understandably gave West Ham the encouragement to take a firm grip on the early process. Brookland was from the outset in on almost everything they created. His energy was boundless and his creative touches in a class above any other single player on show.

At present, Bonds, to find his touch after a two game suspension before the West Ham midfield began to tick anywhere near his best. Arsenal, who had been in the lead, were proving just as inventive and competitive, gave absolutely nothing away after the goal. But even so West Ham's ability to create space in the tightest situations produced chances which could well have brought more goals. Barrett did well to save a point-blank shot.

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side that has lost only one final in all their history—last year's two-legged UEFA Cup climax against Feyenoord of Rotterdam. Tottenham's first time shot was brilliantly blocked by Stewart, but there was a second shot following up to make it 2-0.

Midway through the second half, a job by Knowles again was crucial in getting the ball down to Paddon, and that was a penalty, no doubt. Knowles made the penalty for the crime as he shot home by way of an upright and the diving body of Stewart.

But Leeds, too, had their pride and came back with some fine attacking football. A minute after that third goal Lorimer hit a 25-yard rocket past Jennings' dive onto a post and Jordan earned the rebound into an empty goal.

At the half hour Knowles again found Paddon, who beat three men in a dazzling quick dribble to score. No 4 from Stewart's inside leg from an acute angle. But still, Leeds came back. A poor header by Paddon was picked up by Bremner and this time Lorimer instead of shivering the wood curled a 25-yard shot with the outside of his right foot into the top corner. There it stayed, 20 minutes after the final whistle there, so stayed the crowd singing joyfully on the terrace when the referee gave the game of bowls.

Tottenham Hotspur: P. Jennings, K. Kelly, J. Knowles, P. Paddon, M. Chivers, C. Jones, S. Stewart, M. Walters, C. Dorrance, R. Burns (Worcestershire).

Leeds United: S. Stewart, P. Paddon, M. Chivers, C. Jones, S. Stewart, M. Walters, C. Dorrance, R. Burns (Worcestershire).

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## Cricket

## Taking a thrashing like gentlemen

By Alan Gibson

OXFORD: Oxford University, with four second innings wickets in hand, need 223 runs to avoid an innings defeat by Sussex.

On Saturday Oxford University were bowled out for 78, and Sussex scored 145 for three. I gather that Oxford had then to bat on a difficult pitch, but there was nothing much wrong with the pitch yesterday.

It was pleasant to be in the Parks on such a sunny spring day, and no occupation could have been more pleasant than watching a wicket like that, unless perhaps you were watching a young lady around the scene. The young ladies in the Parks are less elegant than they were 25 years ago, but also less so on such a sunny spring day.

Second XI competition

BRISTOL Gloucestershire 11 247 for 100 (100) vs. Warwickshire 11 181 (100) N. Lacey 81

Today's cricket

OXFORD: Oxford University v Sussex

BRISTOL: Gloucestershire v Warwickshire

Tennis

## Mrs Wooldridge makes a winning return at Sutton

Winnie Wooldridge, who has concentrated for the past three years on reducing her golf handicap to single figures, made a winning return to tennis in the hard court tournament at Sutton yesterday.

Mrs Wooldridge, a former Wimbledon Cup player, who now plays golf for the Surrey second team, won easily 6-2, 6-0 against a Middlesex player, Barbara Wainwright, who has just returned from a 28,000-mile round the world coaching trip.

Susan Mappin, who has been troubled by a back injury which has kept her out of the first two big tournaments, came back to competition as the number four seed in the women's singles but lost a two hour and a half match against Belinda Thompson, the Cheshire champion. Miss Thompson won 6-7, 6-3, 7-5, having a little luck in the final set with a couple of net cords but generally making the better of the exchanges against Miss Mappin, who was obviously not completely fit.

In a men's singles, the former British junior champion, Jonathan Smith from Exeter returned to British competition after playing in the United States last season. He began with a gentle opening bout against Stephen Rice, a renege match against Campbell Roberts, a hard-hitting Australian. After losing the second set, Smith came through 6-4, 2-6, 6-3.

First round: J. R. Smith beat S. Rice 6-4, 2-6, 6-3. Second round: J. R. Smith beat S. Rice 6-4, 2-6, 6-3.

West Ham's manager, John Lyall, was understandably delighted to have survived the match. He had put the finishing touch to a brilliant, close passing move inside the Arsenal box involving Paddon, Holland and Brookland. But from six yards Taylor managed to clip the top of the bar.

Storrey denied Bonds with a goal-line clearance not long after the Arsenal had been awarded a penalty by the building head of Mouch. These were West Ham's best chances of going to Wembley with a really respectable win behind them.

But, of course, with psychology meaning so much to them just now, especially in this kind of derby atmosphere. Until the closing stages, when West Ham's goalkeeper was rarely under severe pressure, though he brought off one fine save from Kelly's first half, Taylor returned to the heart of the West Ham defence promisingly enough after his two-match suspension.

But Kelly, in particular, got him and Lock enough anxious moments to suggest that the wide open spaces of Wembley could be quite a test.

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like Koble College chapel, and there was no Oxford cricketing team taking a thrashing in a gentlemanly spirit: any of you who know the Parks will know what happiness it was to be there.

Sussex batted until tea, by which time they were 369 runs ahead on the first innings. It was good batting practice for Greig and Morley, and even Snow, and wickets fell only through absence of mind, or a sudden thirst, or someone beckoning beneath the blossoms.

Oxford did not bowl very well, and I am afraid in the afternoon they did not field very well, either, which is the worst criticism that can be made of a young university side.

When they batted again, there was no reason why Oxford should not have made a proper score. Snow batted at pace occasionally (all he needed to do), and Greig and Morley made the ball get up a bit from the pitch, that same pitch which had looked so flawless while the Oxford bowlers were toiling.

It was, however, mostly folly that cost Oxford wickets in their second innings. A run-out, after a muddle, ended the innings of their present captain, Glover, when only one run had been scored: a wicket stroke ended the innings of their previous captain, Imran Khan. That was 51 for five, and if Sussex had taken the extra half hour they might have won, but the later Oxford batsmen did play quite steadily down the line, and Sussex perhaps had their own reasons for not hurrying. For one thing, Snow must have been considering a prem on the blossoms under the hugh, and for another thing nobody really minds that we shall be in the Parks again today.

OXFORD UNIVERSITY: First innings 78 (100) vs. Sussex 145 (100) N. Lacey 81

BRISTOL Gloucestershire 11 247 for 100 (100) vs. Warwickshire 11 181 (100) N. Lacey 81

Today's cricket

OXFORD: Oxford University v Sussex

BRISTOL: Gloucestershire v Warwickshire

Tennis

Winnie Wooldridge, who has concentrated for the past three years on reducing her golf handicap to single figures, made a winning return to tennis in the hard court tournament at Sutton yesterday.

Mrs Wooldridge, a former Wimbledon Cup player, who now plays golf for the Surrey second team, won easily 6-2, 6-0 against a Middlesex player, Barbara Wainwright, who has just returned from a 28,000-mile round the world coaching trip.

Susan Mappin, who has been troubled by a back injury which has kept her out of the first two big tournaments, came back to competition as the number four seed in the women's singles but lost a two hour and a half match against Belinda Thompson, the Cheshire champion. Miss Thompson won 6-7, 6-3, 7-5, having a little luck in the final set with a couple of net cords but generally making the better of the exchanges against Miss Mappin, who was obviously not completely fit.

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## Olympic Games

## Killanin has no doubt opening will be on time

Montreal, April 28.—The President of the International Olympic Committee (IOC), Lord Killanin, said today he saw no reason why the 1976 summer Olympic Games here should not start on time.

He was speaking at a press conference after a two-day tour of the Games construction sites. Lord Killanin said he had been surprised at the progress being made on the main stadium and everything should be going according to plan.

He said the IOC had been worried when a seven-week labour dispute, which ended in January, had halted all construction. But I don't want to talk of the past, I want to speak of the future," he said. "I was very much impressed with what I saw and there is no doubt in my mind—barring some calamity—that the games will open on time next year."

Lord Killanin said the IOC would receive a further progress report from the Montreal organising committee in Lausanne next month and another inspection would be made there by a member of the IOC executive in June or July. He added that the IOC would hold an executive meeting in Montreal in October, prior to the Pan-American Games in Mexico.

Rugby Union

## Woodward out, Preston in

Clive Woodward, the Harlequins stand-off half, is out of the England under-23 rugby team to play the county champions Gloucestershire, at Bristol tomorrow. Woodward was carried off with a badly injured neck while playing for Harlequins in the preliminary rounds of the Middlesex seven-a-side tournament at Osterley on Saturday. His place goes to Preston, of Nottingham.

Scott, of St Luke's College, Exeter, comes in at lock forward for Lovell, of Plymouth Albion, who is going into hospital for a carilage operation.

For the Record

Baseball

NEW YORK: New York Mets beat Los Angeles Dodgers 7-6. San Francisco Giants beat Atlanta Braves 4-3. San Diego Padres beat Cincinnati Reds 6-5. Philadelphia Phillies beat St. Louis Cardinals 5-4. Chicago Cubs beat Pittsburgh Pirates 6-5. Houston Astros beat New York Yankees 5-4. Oakland Athletics beat Cleveland Indians 5-4. Baltimore Orioles beat Toronto Blue Jays 5-4.

Ice hockey

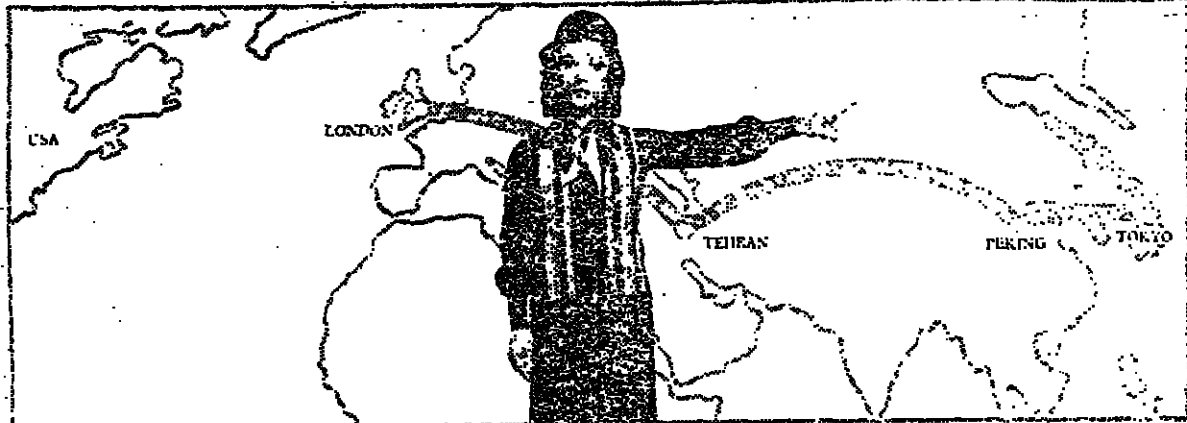
Montreal Canadiens beat Buffalo Sabres 6-1. Montreal Canadiens beat Buffalo Sabres 6-1.

Cycling

Tour of Spain: Sixth stage (117 miles), J. R. Sastre (Italy) won. Overall: J. Sastre (Italy).

Swimming

World Cup: J. Sastre (Italy) won. Overall: J. Sastre (Italy).

Last year  
Peking & Tokyo.

## This year, New York.

(From May 29)

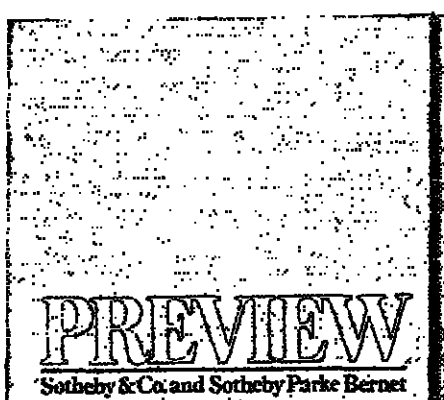
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Wedgwood's 'Poole' copy of Portland vase, to be sold at New Bond Street, on 27th May.

A silver teapot, by Thomas Jenkins, London 1812, to be sold at New Bond Street on 15th May.

A two-manual harpsichord, by Abraham Kirckman, London 1756, to be sold at New Bond Street on 8th May.

Two pattern officer's helmets, left: North Somerset Yeomanry, 15th in. high, right: 6th Dragoon Guards (Carabiniers), 14th in. high. To be sold on Wednesday, May 14th in a sale of Antique Firearms, Weapons and Military Headgear.

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Tomorrow, Wednesday, April 30th at 10.30 a.m. Greek and Etruscan Vases from Nottel Priory. The Property of the Trustees of the Nottel Estate. Catalogue (22 plates) 78p post paid.

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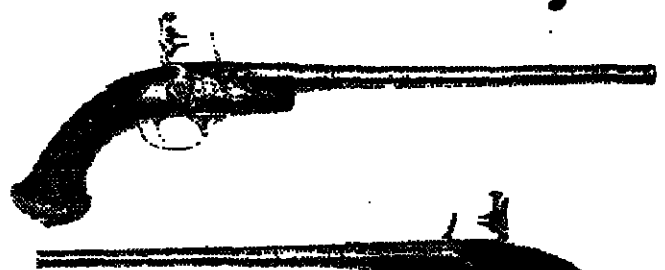
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A pair of Dutch flintlock pistols by Louvois of Maastricht, third quarter of 17th century, to be sold at New Bond Street on 15th May.



A two-manual harpsichord, by Abraham Kirckman, London 1756, to be sold at New Bond Street on 8th May.



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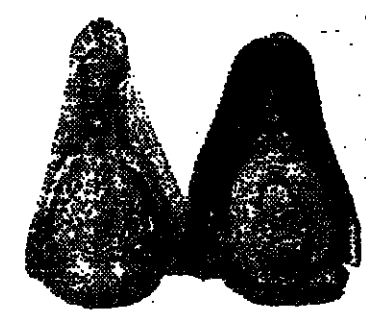
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# AUSTRIA

a Special Report

## role as bridge to the East

Certainly the success of Austria in percolating to the top of international organizations is remarkable. Dr. Waldheim is at the United Nations, Dr. Tonnerer is Secretary-General of the Council of Europe, Herr Janeschek is Secretary-General of the Socialist International, and Dr. Pittner is its President. During the Middle East war a year ago, it even happened that the chairman of the United Nations Security Council was an Austrian.

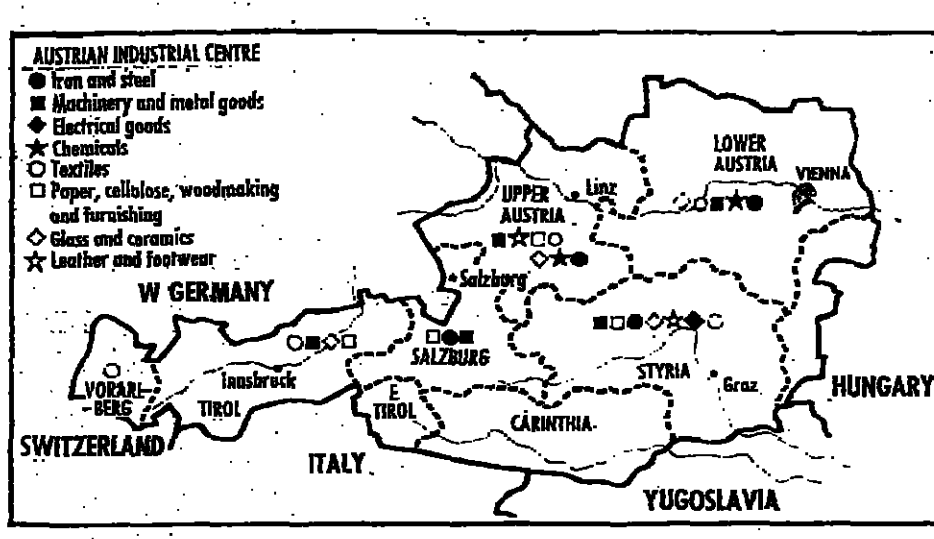
In former days, when President Nixon went off to the Middle East or Moscow, he chose to break his journey for a day in Europe. Where? At Salzburg. Taking into account all the power and panoply displayed by an American President on the move, the huge aircraft United States One, the security measures, the police and the outcrops, it might be thought that little Austria was basing in the great light cast by a super-power. The alternative view is altogether too far-fetched, that America was momentarily submitting to Austria. The presidential talks in Salzburg, it goes without saying, were of great importance.

### Advantages as a listening post

Austria has always taken foreign policy extremely seriously. Its geographical position as a bridge between East and West gives the Chancellery in Vienna advantages as a listening post, a point of mutual contact, which Dr. Kreisky, the Chancellor, has been exploiting to the full. His experience in foreign affairs gives him a personal authority which extends beyond the boundaries of his country, just as Austrian diplomacy in general carries much more weight than the country's real strength would imply. This is not just a matter of talking persuasively. Austria plays an active part in providing troops for United Nations forces, in Cyprus,



The rural: Reith bei Seefeld, a small village between Zirl and Seefeld. This summer the Austrians are campaigning to give the individual motorist a welcome with low-cost castle and farmhouse holidays. The industrial: the map shows the nation's manufacturing centres.



along the Suez Canal and in the Golan Heights. The United Nations is a focal point for Austrian diplomacy, which explains the sense of pride which the country felt in Dr. Waldheim's appointment. It also explains the present project to construct a new building in Vienna, at a cost of £250m, as a headquarters for the International Atomic Energy Organization and the United Nations Industrial Development Organization (UNIDO).

### Way round the EEC levy

Later, the Austrian problem of beef exports to Italy was solved, so it is suggested in Vienna, by reason of the personal friendship and understanding between the Austrian and West German Ministers of Agriculture, who succeeded in finding a way round the EEC levy. The Austrian representatives in high places, some people would argue, all work in the service of a precept of Emperor Maximilian II: *Conflicta sunt dissolvenda*. It is their particular skill to conceal conflict, to smooth the way and give the impression that the affairs of mankind are going forward quite amicably. Austria, the world's most important dealer in European policy has also all the important desks of the world. Austria, like other members of EFTA will be complete.

## Energy with cash to expand

by Gretel Spitzer

The completion of eight power stations, three of them hydroelectric, and the investment of 12,800m Schillings (about £230m) last year are a long and unremarkable process, going back nearly 10 years, and at times it seemed that Austrian diplomacy was simply marking time in Brussels while nothing happened. But in the end it all worked out very well. Austria is one of those fortunate countries that still have resources available for expanding their energy supplies. In 1972 it supplied 38.6 per cent of its own energy consumption, according to figures by the Federal Ministry for Trade, Commerce and Industry. Compared to other European industrial nations, Austria has, thanks to abundant water power, a relatively high share of hydroenergy, which can still be extended. It also has oil and natural gas within its borders; too little for self-sufficiency, but enough, as the recent oil crisis showed, to be significant.

Appeals to economize during the oil crisis were to some extent successful. Though the country's oil consumption in 1974 and that of normal grade petrol by 2.2 per cent, consumption of oil dropped by 13 per cent; that of oil for heating purposes by 13 per cent; of petroleum by 28.5 per cent; and of turbo fuel by 16.6 per cent. Large-scale projects are under construction, and when completed they will add considerably to existing capacity. But they require large investment, and the speed with which they will be completed may depend on the availability of capital, a precarious topic in inflation-ridden Austria.

An overall concept for expanding power capacities up to 1984 is provided for investment in the power industry of about 140,000m Schillings last year. The idea is to have hydroelectric stations producing 2,500 megawatts by 1984 and thermal plants 4,200 megawatts. Previous estimates for the increase in energy consumption have mentioned a 7 to 8 per cent increase a year. But the latest figures stay below that and assume that consumption of energy will increase by 2.4 per cent in 1975-76 and by 2.8 per cent in 1976-77. For the distant future the prospects are good. If Austria can exploit its potential water power in full it may eventually have sufficient storage reserves to help the European linking system in an emergency. Austria also has its own coal resources. Hard coal, however, is only about 10 per cent of the coal reserves. The two hard coal producing mines in Lower Austria have been closed as uneconomic. Last year, for example, 2,865,300 tons of hard coal were imported. There is anthracite in adequate quantities particularly in the Fohnsdorf area, and there is soft coal, most of it in Styria: 3,630,000 tons were produced in 1974 out of a total of 4,540,000 tons consumed. Oil was first discovered near Zistersdorf in Lower Austria in 1934. The Russians, who occupied the area in 1945, increased the output to 3,700,000 tons a year. Production dropped to 2,238,000 tons last year. Natural gas production increased to 2,200 million cu metres in 1974. It is estimated that 75,000 million cu metres are available, of which 60 per cent can be extracted with present techniques. Last year, Austria produced 33,881 GWh (one gigawatt hour is one million kilowatt hours) of electrical energy. Of those 11,219 GWh came from conventional thermal power stations, and the larger part from hydro-electric power plants. The most important of the existing storage power stations are in the west and the south: the Ill power plants in Vorarlberg; the Achsee and Gerlos power stations in Tirol; the Reith

## A family at peace

by Mark Lancaster

An Austrian friend recently attended the funeral of an aged and impecunious aunt in Styria, meeting for the first time in years almost forgotten cousins and relatives. One cousin said after the event: "We seem such a happy, peaceful family, even if we meet only rarely."

"Yes", my friend replied, "we are really a sort of microcosm of Austria; we have no legacy from Austria's past, nothing to fight over." By accepted West European standards, the political life of Austria might arguably be branded as dull, a sort of tranquillity being the keynote. But the dullness, if such it is, is reflected in a steadily growing prosperity and, above all, a social peace which cause annual strike figures to be measured in a handful of working hours rather than millions of working days.

The origins of this 30 years' peace go back, of all paradoxical places, to Dachau concentration camp. Austrian political leaders of right and left found themselves corralled together after the 1938 Anschluss and decided that if ever they came out alive, they would work together for a better Austria.

There followed two decades of *Proporz*, a singularly Austrian system whereby legislative, executive and administrative bodies were neatly parcelled out between the Socialists and the People's Party (Christian Democrats). Not until 1966 did any single party lead the country when the People's Party formed a government with Josef Klaus as Chancellor. In 1970 Dr. Bruno Kreisky, who had already made a reputation as Foreign Minister, formed a minority government and in the general election of October, 1971, gained an absolute majority. His team has governed the country since and will run for re-election next October. It holds 93 parliamentary seats.

which all parliamentary parties are represented. It is constitutionally obliged to endorse all social and economic legislation. Popularly known as the *Paritätische*, it has proved a major factor in social peace, settling questions of wages and prices more or less amicably. A second and inescapable factor contributing to political stability is that all Austria experienced seven years of fascist (Nazi) control and the eastern half of Austria, including Vienna, 10 years of occupation by the Soviet army. The older generation have long memories and have to a large extent imbued following generations with their reservations. Under the SPO Government the country has undoubtedly boomed with a prosperity spread throughout the population. The objective facts of Austria's position, economically, politically and geographically, have imposed caution and discretion on the Government. Because of the state treaty of neutrality, and barring any sudden changes to the south-east, a neutral and prosperous Austria should remain as integral a part of Europe as Switzerland. An important pointer to the economic stability, apart from impressive growth rates in gap and living standards, has been the firmness of the Schilling during the recent period of international monetary turmoil. However, with a country reflecting trends in West Germany always with a few years' delay, first signs of a recession have recently become manifest. Should it worsen, it could well influence the outcome of an election in six months' time, tarnishing the reputation of Dr. Kreisky's Socialist leadership. Nobody would be wise to predict the outcome of Austria's October election but there is a salient factor in the shift of population balance towards the western areas with higher birth rates. With *Proporz* will be four fewer seats in Vienna, a traditional Socialist region, which will go to Tyrol, Upper Austria and

continued on page 15

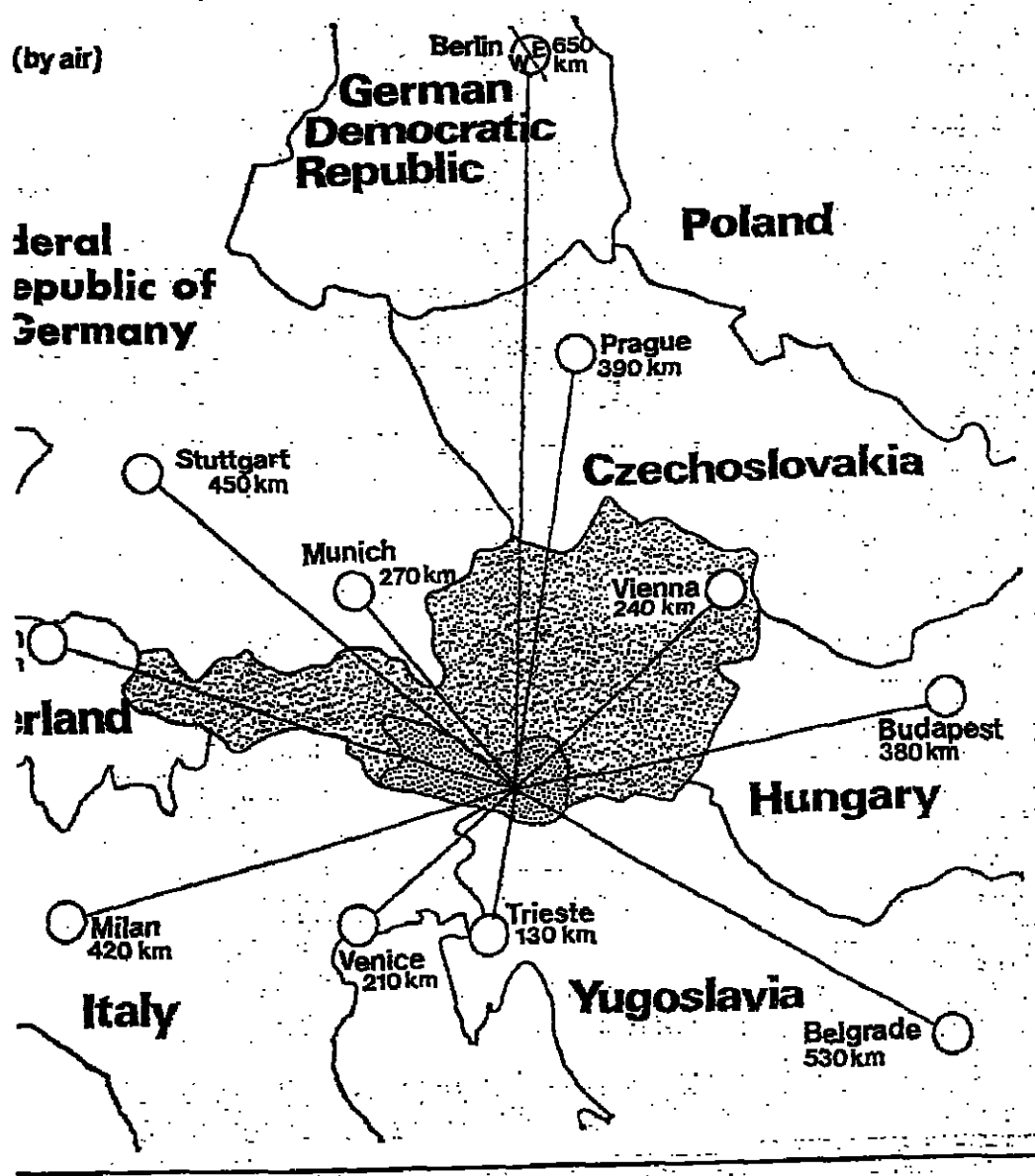
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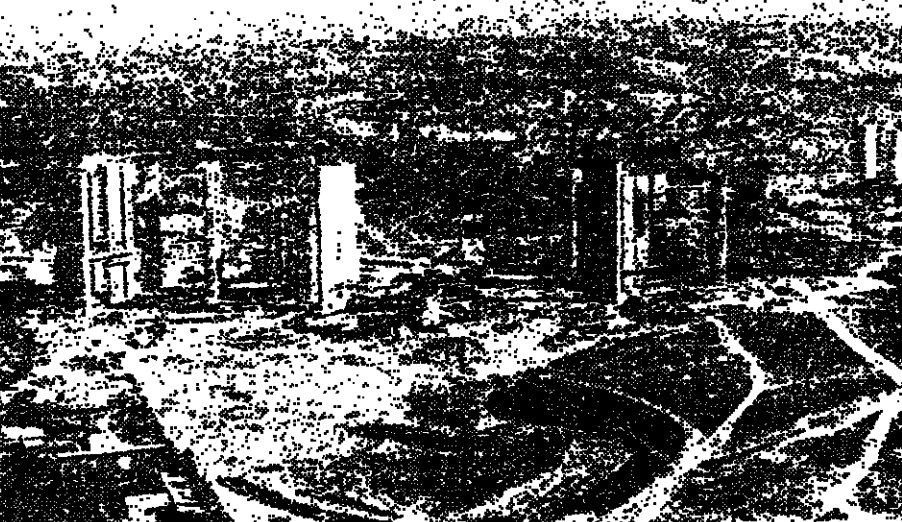
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have entered into one of the greatest building projects ever realized in that country: Austria is building headquarters for two of the largest UN organisations.

With this project Austria and especially Vienna is following a long and illustrious tradition. Vienna's position in the midst of Europe rendered it a meeting-place even in the Middle Ages. Its great reputation as a city of congresses and conferences was established in the last century, when it was the capital of a huge political and economic empire. Since then Austria has undergone a great change from the empire it was to the small European republic it is now. But this little country in the centre of Europe has shown the world that it was capable of overcoming its past. It has again become an important meeting place between East and West, not only because of its geographical situation but even more because of its neutral position between the great powers. The realization of this project emphasises the importance Austria has gained in present days, showing that it not only has a great past but will have just as great a future.

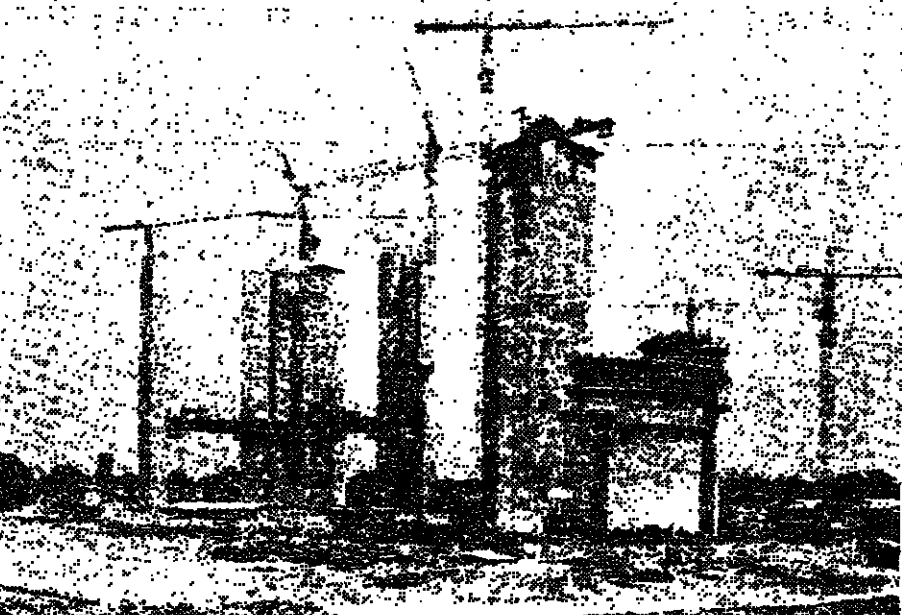
A number of years ago International organisations decided to establish their headquarters in Vienna, the capital of Austria. The International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) came to the city on the Danube in 1957 and the United Nations Industrial Development Organization (UNIDO) followed ten years later. As Vienna had only temporary accommodation for the two UN organisations, the Austrian Government offered to build permanent homes for both when the UNIDO came to Vienna in 1967. In April 1973 the actual construction of permanent headquarters for the two organisations started according to the plans of the Austrian architect Johann Staber, on a site of approximately 170,000 m<sup>2</sup> on the left bank of the Danube. In popular language called the "UN-City" the project comprises an exterritorial international part as well as an Austrian one.



A bird's eye view of the building site; on the right the office towers for the IAEA, on the left for UNIDO

The international part will consist of 4 Y-shaped office towers providing 60,000 m<sup>2</sup> of office space; a circular building linked with the two headquarters will provide the necessary conference and meeting halls: 11 halls, ranging in capacity from 100 to 400 delegates; lastly two further Y-shaped towers accommodating common services for both organisations, which, although not on the exterritorial part, will offer space for approximately 4,700 employees.

The architectural concept complies with the democratic ideas of the UN inasmuch as all offices will have daylight conditions. Further it will easily allow for possible subsequent expansion in the case of any further UN organisations also wishing to come to Vienna. Next to the UN-City Austria intends to build a large Conference Centre, at the moment in a stage of initial planning, which, although not on the exterritorial part, will be in close supplement to conference facilities of the international part.



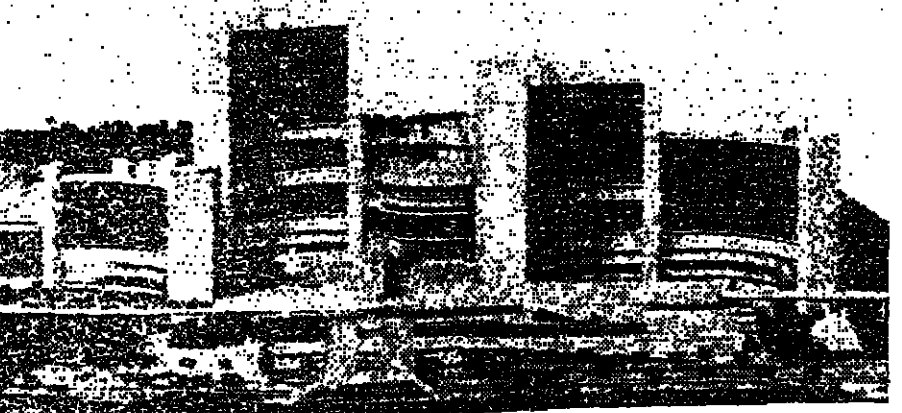
Another view of the site: The UNIDO Towers and their central cores have now reached their final heights (100 and 80 metres)

For the efficient execution of the project a joint stock company with 65% of its shares held by the Austrian State and 35% by the Municipality of Vienna was established in May 1971 and was made responsible for planning, construction, administration and financing of the project. The company, in Austria for short called the "IAKW" (International Headquarters and Conference Centre Vienna) immediately started planning and pre-construction operations, so that a general design became a set of blueprints within 12 months and construction work was able to begin in April 73.

At present carcass work is making considerable progress. The steel reinforced concrete towers which represent the vertical bearing structures are growing at a rate of 3 metres per day, the highest one having reached its final height of 100 metres. The site was chosen near the Danube, close to recreation grounds, adjacent to a huge park but nevertheless not too far away from the centre of the city. Already the towers are dominating their surroundings and can be seen from many parts of the city. Some of the structural floors supporting the individual groups of office floors and linking the vertical structures of the Y-shapes have already been heated into their final positions by hydraulic lifting. With a little imagination the onlooker can visualise

the delicate articulation which the glass and metal facade will give to the finished buildings. A few figures may show how justified the Viennese term "City" for the project is. The expected total power requirement of 40 MW corresponds to that of a small town. The two headquarters will require 5,000 telephone connections besides a series of other means of communication within the buildings, and the outside telephone requirements will necessitate the construction of a new central telephone exchange in Vienna. The air conditioning system will need some 60,000 kcal/hour to keep the ambient temperature at 20 to 24 centigrade during summer and winter. Some 50 elevators will take care of people's movement within the building. Express lifts and local lifts as well as goods elevators and an office dumb waiter system will be installed. New freeways and roads will have to be built to allow for adequate access of private traffic to the headquarters.

The "UN-City" will be a gift of the Republic of Austria and the City of Vienna and will be let to the UN organisations for a symbolic rent of 1 Austrian Shilling per year. It is to be regarded as a generous gesture of the country towards the cause of the United Nations. It is Austria's contribution towards world peace and the understanding of nations throughout the world.



View of the towers from the side facing the Wagraner Road. At the very right a small corner of the UNIDO building.

## Steel firms facing double change

by Heinz Kusznier

Two factors which contributed to the situation in the Austrian steel, heavy mechanical engineering and shipbuilding industries in 1974 are, first, that these branches of Austrian industry have been owned by the Austrian Republic—in other words nationalized—for more than 21 years, and, second, that at the beginning of 1973 two occurrences took place which are of basic importance to the future development of this sector.

At that time the free trade zone agreement between Austria and the EEC came into force, and during the same period the formation of an Austrian steel group from four hitherto independent companies was effected. Under this merger Vöest-Alpine-Monten were fused into a single group, into which Boehler and Schoeller-Bleckmann were then incorporated as subsidiaries.

That the amalgamation of the various firms in the Austrian steel industry became effective only about two years ago, although they had already been in joint ownership—that of the state—for more than two and a half decades, is just as much a pointer to the future as the coming into force of the agreements between Austria, the EEC and the European Coal and Steel Community. Together, they affect the relations between the companies themselves and their position in relation to a market of more than 300 million people comprising the main trading partners of Austria, from which Austrian industry had been separated by customs barriers for many years.

The period which has elapsed since the tearing down of these barriers is too short a time to make it possible fully to overcome the separation which had previously existed for a quarter of a century (and which, although attempts had been made in that direction in earlier years, was only finally eliminated by the Socialist government of Bruno Kreisky).

It will be the middle of 1977 before the duties are completely abolished between the EEC and Austria, and as late as the beginning of 1980 in the case of "sensitive products" to which the refined steel produced by Boehler and Schoeller-Bleckmann belongs.

Thus the Austrian steel companies will also be faced with a complete change in their production range (the two Austrian shipyards in

Linz and Korneuburg have been absorbed into Vöest-Alpine as subsidiaries)—are at present in a twin process of adaptation: on the one hand adaptation to each other, and on the other hand adaptation to the large European market.

Some idea of the size of the task of internal adaptation may be gained from the fact that the former Vöest was already largely export-oriented some years ago, whereas the former Alpine traditionally concentrated on supplying the Austrian domestic market with steel and steel products. Again, there was an overlap between the production ranges of the two refined steel producers, Boehler and Schoeller-Bleckmann, which could be accepted so long as the two companies were competitors on the world market, but which naturally has to be eliminated now they have become subsidiaries of the same parent company.

The large new Austrian steel concern has works at more than 20 places in the federation (including Upper Austria, Styria and Lower Austria) concentrated in Linz, Donawitz, Ternitz and Kapfenberg—another indication of the size of the tasks to be tackled. Some of the measures required have already been taken. Thus a basic joint organizational structure has been created and a uniform new organization has been formed from the previously separate sales organizations.

As Vöest-Alpine's managing director, Herr Herbert Koller, recently stated, "Specific products are now being sold only by specific salesmen".

The purchasing policy has been harmonized, and in particular the investment policy has been coordinated. The latter measure has been of particular importance, since at present all the group's production sites still have investment programmes in operation which were planned in 1969 and 1970—before the merger. The measures being taken at present, the medium-term phase of coordination, include the redesign of the sales organization, development of the organizational structure, development of uniform management principles and guidelines, and finally—especially as regards the refined steel sector, where this must be completed by the end of 1974—elimination of production overlaps. At the end of this development there should be, as a logical consequence, a complete sector, and this is already under discussion.

Considerable importance attaches to the social aspect of adaptation within the new enterprise. This is a delicate exercise, apart from the financial aspect, because here in no other sector, tradition and usage are closely bound up with local custom.

Adaptation to the integrated European market is no less important and critical than internal adaptation. This is a question of very existence, as will be seen when one considers the companies' export figures, which have been almost 80 per cent of total turnover in the case of Vöest-Alpine and more than 80 per cent in the refined steel companies.

But the combine faces a difficulty over the prices it can charge and, closely connected with this, the profits that can be earned. According to ECSC rules, the prices valid in Austria are also applicable to all customers in the EEC countries, so the companies are no longer able to recoup on export prices the losses sustained on domestic prices.

Domestic prices, however—under a social contract based not on law but on an agreement between employers and employees' organizations—are subject to control by the Parity Commission for Wages and Price Questions, a voluntarily accepted clearing house of industrial interests and therefore of those interests relevant to social policy. It is to this body's concern for the balanced movement of wages and prices that Austria in large measure owes its smooth development in recent years.

The significance attached by the Parity Commission to smooth price development makes it impossible—in conjunction with the price regime of the ECSC—for the Austrian steel industry to earn the profits it could otherwise achieve. In the EEC prices are oriented to the market whereas in Austria they must be based on proved cost increases. Because of these restrictions, Vöest-Alpine loses up to 5m schillings of profit every day.

Although a process of price adaptation in several stages began last year Austrian steel prices are as much as 40 per cent below the level of those of the EEC. Whether this is a justifiable contribution to price stability inside Austria or to industry at such substantial cost to the enterprises concerned is a decisive question for the future of the Austrian steel industry (and its workforce) of approximately 80,000 in the light of worldwide inflation rates.

commercial policy arose even before the merger of the com-

## Plans to win back tourists

by Pieter Zwart

Austria is fortunate in having an all-the-year-round season for tourism. In the summer you can walk and ride in the mountains, or sail and fish in the lakes. In the winter there is skiing, and some resorts have good snow throughout the year. For Austria tourism is an important industry, with tourists from Germany making up about 80 per cent of the total, those from The Netherlands about 5 per cent, and visitors from Britain about 4 per cent.

The latest figures, from January to October last year, show a drop in the number of nights tourists spent in Austria. West Germans spent 3.6 per cent fewer nights compared with 1973; the Dutch 6.2 per cent fewer; the British 44.4 per cent, and the Americans 21.3 per cent fewer.

The difficulties in the Austrian tourist industry began at the start of 1973 with the drop in the value of the pound and the introduction of value added tax which hit the hotel industry and restaurants especially. The Austrian domestic tourist industry felt a drop of about 1.3 per cent in 1974, compared with 1973, although with the higher standard of living they enjoyed, more Austrians were spending more abroad.

The hoteliers and others have responded with various schemes. In Tirol, for instance, a guest-card was introduced, enabling tourists to get discounts in entertainment and shops. In Innsbruck tourists have been offered free transport by bus from the hotels to the ski-lifts. And following the advice of the Austrian National Tourist Board, various ski resorts give one-week skiers a package deal which includes ski-passes and ski-schools at a reduced rate.

The hoteliers have been lobbying the Government to decrease the VAT percentage. For instance, if you have coffee with breakfast it is counted as part of the meal and attracts only 8 per cent VAT, but coffee taken separately counts as a drink such as wine and spirits and attracts 16 per cent VAT.

The indications are that during the past winter season the drop in tourism slowed down. There were, for instance, 10 per cent fewer British tourists in January compared with 1974, but that was less than the drop of a third in January, 1974, compared with the same month in 1973. The underlying reasons for the slowing-down

of the drop may be that the hotels are trying not to increase their prices, people who like to ski in Austria come anyway, and that tour operators are giving a better deal.

This summer the Austrians are campaigning to give the individual motorist a welcome with low-cost castle and farmhouse holidays in their *sommerfrische* country. They can offer a large number of outdoor activities for those who wish to relax in a summer wonderland of fresh landscapes, silent forests and warm lakes—or for those who wish to take part in sports such as golf, tennis, sailing, or riding. Farm-houses offer bed and breakfast at about £1 a person a day and direct contact with country people; whereas a holiday in a romantic castle hotel works out at an average of £3 a person a day for bed and breakfast.

For summer and winter tourist alike Vienna remains a draw—some 4 per cent of foreign tourists stayed there in 1973. Vienna was once the heart of a great empire and it still retains the traditions and the charm and dignity of an old-established European capital city. Some overseas visitors may be disappointed not to find the opera performing, or the Vienna Boys' Choir singing, or the Spanish Riding School in the height of the tourist season in July and August, but the Austrians are quick to point out that they also deserve their holidays.

Other powerful attractions remain. Part of the old Imperial Palace—the Hofburg—is now used for international conferences, carrying on the tradition of Vienna as a meeting place for many nations which recalls Metetrich's Vienna congress.

The Vienna Congress Centre—run as a private company since 1969—now attracts not only United Nations and government conferences but private conferences ranging from 150 to 1,000 delegates. The shareholders of the company are 12 leading hotels which arrange rooms for conference goers. The centre, built in 1958, is fitted with five simultaneous translation systems, 40 trunklines, 50 telephones, radio and television studios, post and press offices and other modern facilities. In the ceremonial hall—once the emperors' throne room—state dinners are now held under the 26 double chandeliers of crystal. Here in 1910 the formal proposal of a marriage on behalf of Maria Leon I was made to the Archduchess Maria Louise. Another part of the Imperial Palace is now a

museum where the simple beds used by Franz Joseph and Elisabeth of Bavaria can be seen, set in the splendour of gilded rooms.

In the treasury are the gold-encrusted mantles of the Order of the Golden Fleece—a heraldic order of knights founded in 1427. Here too is the crown of the Holy Roman Emperor (returned from Nuremberg). Among the inland glitter of precious stones is a small cross in this turban-style crown.

Elsewhere in Vienna there are reminders of many musicians who frequented the city—the house in Domgasse where Mozart composed *Figaro* is open; here Beethoven is said to have met Mozart and this is regarded as the cradle of the Viennese classical school; the city has associations with Haydn, Strauss and Mahler among many others.

One of the museums opened in 1971 is the private museum of Sigmund Freud in Berggasse—here the waiting room with its painted palms and Egyptian antiquities can be seen in the apartment of Freud where the Wednesday evening meetings with his followers took place.

In the summer Austria has even more to offer. In the mountainous region of the eastern Alps there is mountaineering and rambling; some 700 mountain huts offer overnight accommodation for 30,000 visitors at a cost of 10 schillings to 80 schillings. The lake district of Carinthia and Lower Austria is popular for campers and caravanners: there is fishing, including trout fishing, in Lower Austria and Upper Austria. Among the golf courses, in Lower and Upper Austria and Salzburg is that of Seefeld-Wildmoos in Tirol, which is Austria's largest 18-hole championship course.

There is sailing at Attersee, Bodensee, Neusiedler See, Traunsee, Wörther See and Wolfgangsee and all-weather skiing at Kaprun/Kitzbühelhorn in Salzburg; Hinterux/Gebräune Wand in Tirol; Hochgurgl/Wurmkogel in Tirol; Neusiedl/St. Michael in Tirol; Rettenbachalm in Tirol. These resorts have been opened up in the summer by cable cars and glacier railways.

For winter skiers Tirol remains a much sought after region. Among the most popular resorts in the Alps are Fulpmes, Seefeld, St. Anton, Wildschönau and Mayrhofen. The British Army Longships were held in Oberauern, Salzburg, which because of its high situation has snow every winter.



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Bernard Levin

# Through Mr Silkin's hoops, bends and precedents

Last week, three Labour lawyers, Mr. Silkin, Mr. Silkin, Mr. Silkin, in first making it clear that he could never countenance the legal and constitutional outrage of an indemnity Bill for the defaulting Clay Cross councillors (because it would be both wrong in itself and an encouragement of further lawlessness), and then, when such a measure was introduced, being perfectly willing to countenance it.

His colleagues (in a letter to this newspaper) ended their wretched excuses for Mr Silkin's wretchedly inexcusable conduct with the words: "It is high time that the record should be set straight," and with that part of their apology I can agree. I shall now take the opportunity of putting the record so appallingly straight that an unshorn Samson would not be able to bend it back again.

When Mr Silkin (then Shadow Attorney General) was asked by the Labour Party on the matter of an Indemnity Bill for the Clay Cross councillors, he gave his advice, of course, in confidence. So when, subsequently, his advice was publicly couched from the Labour Party Conference which was demanding an Indemnity Bill, he could

hardly denounce Mr Edward Thorpe (who formally accepted the commitment to bring in such a Bill) for leaving the conference in ignorance of his crucial views on it. But even when some time later, his confidential advice was published, he could hardly have supposed that the constitutional outrage, against which he had so sternly warned, would actually take place.

When it did, when the Housing Finance (Special Provisions) Bill—perhaps better known as the Don't Worry, Sam, They'll Never Throw You Out of the Arent's Member Bill—was introduced, Mr Silkin had only two choices before him. One was to stand by his advice and resign his office. That would have left his previous high reputation intact, but would have been very embarrassing for the Government. The other was to remove the last tight-fist from the scandalous business they are involved in.

The other course was the one he adopted: it was to try to find something that would serve as a fig-leaf, not for the Government but for him. Now in giving his advice—to the effect that relieving the defaultering councillors of their punishment would be utterly wrong, and that announcing that they were to be so relieved would be equally wrong—he had said:

I know of no example of legislation by one Parliament to reverse the financial penalties incurred in consequence of refusing to obey the requirements of legislation passed by a preceding Parliament. An Act of indemnity passed for this purpose would, in my opinion, contravene all constitutional practice and would set a dangerous precedent. Moreover, the expression of an intention by a political party to pass such legislation in the event of such a party being returned to power could only be construed as an indictment to those concerned to refuse to obey the law: such an expression of intention would therefore also set a dangerous precedent.

Thus spoke Zorathustra. And the only way out of the trap he had set for himself was to find a precedent for what was being done, for then (and only then) he could maintain that he had not been reversing the law. And he found it. The Clay Cross indemnity measure, as he had said that he knew of no precedent for what he was condemning. But, alas, it soon became apparent that no such precedent existed. And into what binds and hoops and knots and spirals has he invited himself to claim that spurious precedents are after all real ones!

And what are these spurious precedents? One was the measure brought in by Neville Chamberlain in respect of the Poplar councillors: actions such as those indulged in at Clay Cross were not only ruled out

by the legislation, they were described as follows by Mr Chamberlain in his speech on the Bill in question: "a local authority who is doing his duty within the powers given to local authorities by Parliament has anything to fear... The only people at whom this Bill is aimed are those people... who wish to go further than the law allows them, and wish to set up a counter authority to the action of Parliament. If they are prepared to resist in conduct of that kind, then they will be rightly removed from a position which they have shown themselves unfit to occupy."

And, having thus disposed of the question of qualification from office, Mr Chamberlain also dealt unambiguously with the question of surcharge: "I, myself, think that, at any rate in some cases, it may fairly be argued that they have been in doubt as to whether what they did was legal or not."

But, he made clear, "it would not have been proper... to remit a surcharge after it did actually know the law."

So much for Mr Silkin's claim that the Chamberlain-Lansbury case was one of the precedents he had in mind. The other case had, if possible, even less connexion with what has been done in the Clay Cross affair. It was the executive action of a Conservative minister in sanctioning, in accordance with powers he already possessed by statute, local government expenditure which, in the

absence of such lawful ministerial sanction, would later have led to the councillors involved being surcharged; and what is more, the minister only took even this action when he had an assurance from the councillors in question that they would thenceforth keep strictly within their legal powers.

To sum up: pseudo-precedent one concerned legislation which, as was made perfectly clear when it was being passed, did not apply to councillors who knowingly went on defying the law, whereas at Clay Cross the councillors did go on doing so: pseudo-precedent two concerned an executive—not legislative—action, based on existing—not retrospectively enacted—powers, over councillors who had agreed—not flatly refused—to abide their defiance of the law. And this is the whole of the "evidence" supporting Mr Silkin's claim that he could not have had such a measure as the Clay Cross indemnity-legislation in mind when he gave his advice to the Labour Party, for in that advice he said that there were no precedents! And not only have three Labour MPs had the cheek to write to this paper to support him in his impudent claim: a Labour MP (Mr Tombs) has also written to the Standing Committee on the Clay Cross Bill, has been feeble enough to accept it.

In his speech to the Standing Committee dealing with the Clay Cross legislation, Mr Silkin put forward, in order to deny, what he was good enough to describe as the "Levinese" argument, which he put thus:

The Attorney General quite clearly said something in 1972. Now he is trying to wriggle out of it and make believe he said something different.

Those are not my words, but they are a perfectly fair summary of my charge, and I stand by it. And it is worth saying one further thing about Mr Silkin and his conduct. Let us suppose that his excuse for his conduct could survive an examination of the evidence, which it could not. Let us suppose that his advice to the Labour Party concerned something significantly different from what they are now doing, which it did not. Let us suppose that the accusations of hypocrisy levelled at him are based on misunderstanding or malice, which they are not. Let us suppose all these absurd things, and then see where the result of our suppositions leaves him.

It leaves him—on his own construction of his actions, mind—having argued that to indemnify those who have set the law at naught would be wrong and dangerous, that to announce an intention to indemnify them would be equally wrong and dangerous, and that it would be impossible for any

Attorney General to stand by what such an intention was being carried into practice, but that none of that applies to what is actually happening, because, and only because, under the legislation that is being enacted, the form of indemnification for the very defiance of the law he condemned is different from the form he had in mind when he condemned it. Indemnification, he said, plainly, would encourage further lawlessness; but promised and executed indemnification does not actually use public funds to pay back to the lawless the money they owe—which, incidentally, they have not paid, and which they have no intention of paying—consequences envisaged. On that argument Mr Silkin rests his honour and his reputation. I think it is a platform that will not bear the weight.

But suppose, finally, that it would? Suppose the Attorney General has nothing to reproach himself with? Would that make any difference to the scandal of the Government's conduct? The councillors at Clay Cross refused, for party-political reasons, to obey the law. Their refusal was not an isolated act of impulse, but one part of a prolonged course of behaviour in which they turned the community over which they were set in lawful authority into a private fief, a brigands' domain

where public money was strewn about like corn to further the political aims, where public officials who attempted to sunder what was happening were instantly sacked, where the members of the ruling Labour group who dared to defy the commissioners in the name of the electors and the law were similarly dispatched into a political wilderness, and where they finally decided that the non-Parliament would make a law.

For this they were very properly though very belatedly disqualified from the office they had so notably debauched and surcharged for a huge sum of other people's money they had spent with awful authority. And the members of this gang are now have the disqualification lifted and the debts they owe charged, for no better reason than that they did what they did in the name of Marxism. To such degradation has the present Government sunk that it is willing to countenance that crime, and all a terrible consequence that a assuredly flow from the implied declaration that the law is safely defied if those who defy it hold the right party card. In those circumstances, does really matter much whether the Attorney General is a hypocrite or not?

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## Labour must not be frightened of making socialism work

One of the most curious features of the 12 months that the Government has been in office is the general and almost hysterical outcry that has occurred every time it has indicated its intention of implementing that part of its programme that could be described as socialist. Clearly it is expected to act like a Tory Government and is faulted when it demonstrates no such inclination.

The furor over the capital transfer tax, over the attempt to eliminate pay beds from the NHS, over the proposal to introduce a complete system of comprehensive schools or to extend public ownership and Government intervention in industry, is symptomatic of a grave misunderstanding of politics on the part of the protesters. Or, to put it more charitably, of a failure on the part of the Government to spell out its operational view of politics.

What I am concerned about is not criticism of the policies, per se, but the widely held assumption that the policies in question ought never to have been formulated, let alone implemented. The Government, so its politically illiterate critics would have it, is exhibiting both a colossal cheek and a cunning underdemocraticity—whatever that means.

Perhaps then we should outline our view of the nature of politics. Politics is not, as Michael Oakeshott would have us believe, "attending to the arrangements of a society so that it can be better governed." Certainly any Government has to attend to the arrangements of society. But that is not, and should not be, its exclusive function. If it were we would indeed be sterile.

Nor is politics about compromise at bargain prices. Bernard Crick, the most profound of Mr Oakeshott's critics, would have us believe. A Labour Government is not in office to engage in a steady series of bargains and compromises in search of a spurious consensus. If it were then it would soon be impotent.

Attending to the arrangements of society is the function of the civil service, the politics of bargains and compromises is the function of the party in opposition when formulating its programme.

The function of the Government on the other hand, and particularly a Labour Government, is to impose its values on society. Its role is creative, not to cast so far as it is able, society in its image.

The Government must have the confidence to believe that its values and its principles are self-evidently right and, therefore, beneficial to society. And the policies that flow from these values and principles—whether it be, to change the list, the nationalization of land, of shipbuilding and ship repairs, and the Employment Protection Bill—must also be right, as we see them (and there is no other viewpoint) and must be pursued vigorously.

In imposing its values on society one would expect, of course, that it would listen to representations, that it would explain its policies and that it would put right those inevitable injustices and anomalies that arise, unforeseen and unintentional, in any piece of legislation. In the end, however, it must enforce its programme. The edges may be trimmed but the guts must remain.

There will be those who will say that this is a touch of dictatorship. It is nothing of the sort. First, the consultations, the representations, the bargains and the compromises all have taken place while the party was in opposition and its policies were being formulated.

Second, the programme has been sacrificed by success at the polls and is reinforced by the mandate theory, with all its acknowledged deficiencies. The main problem here is that there is no plausible or viable alternative.

It is instructive, in this context, that the Tories imposed their will over the Industrial Relations Act, EEC and the Housing Finance Act. Moreover, their attempt to bully the Government off the capital transfer tax, public ownership, and the rest is just

What we are, or should be saying, be it ever so polite and ever so quiet, is that 'we are the masters now'

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as much an attempt by them to impose their values on us and society. Third, they can be challenged in the media, as they are vigorously, and in Parliament.

But more important is that we have to accept that a plural society, by definition, has within it a complex series of sets of opposed value systems that cannot be reconciled by argument or persuasion and can only be resolved by the argument-stopper, for a time, of legislative action.

It follows, then, that a Labour Government should be imposing its values. Certainly it should not be deflected by a desire to appear to share its frame of reference and never will, still less by any desire to appear respectable—and which generally means establishment-minded.

Put simply what we are, or should be saying, be it ever so polite and ever so quiet, is that "we are the masters now." That, like it or not, is what politics is about. It should certainly be said firmly.

It is, to put it crudely, our turn now, and it might not last long. But while it does last then it is our job to cast society in our image, because that, after all is what we are in business for. The shop is under new management and alterations will be made. We have to challenge orthodoxy, to break out of the hidebound paths of the past and to have no fear of stepping on custom, tradition or doing things that are different and doing them in a different way.

Unfortunately, this does not always happen. Far too frequently we are too timid. We in the Labour Party tend to forget that our history and our programme calls for radical and swift changes and that these will not be achieved unless we have the courage to assert that we are right and the will to see that what we want is accomplished.

What we lack, and what we must have, is a kind of arrogance—though the language that articulates it can remain polite. We should certainly not be too frightened of upsetting people. If we are we shall never win, and winning is what it is all about.

But those who lose always shout loudest. The hysteria that is being orchestrated by the opposition means, I suppose, that we are winning.

Robert Kilroy-Silk  
The author is Labour MP for Ormskirk

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## Amid the wreckage and carnage of Vietnam, the face of American compassion



from some of the jobs Americans did.

They were superimposed from the beginning in 1964-65 on to what passed for a South Vietnamese government structure, down to the district level. This meant that hundreds of eager young men, and some

women went out into the "boondocks"—not to run the country like colonial officials, but to advise their counterparts.

Few spoke the language, or even French. They were often dealing with disgruntled Vietnamese army officers who had

no wish for advice—only for the money the Americans dispensed. Some of the Americans I met in my six years off and on there were arrogant, most dedicated. A good few were specialists.

They were at their best in advising on agricultural aid.

There was, maybe still is, a narrow bar in the Cong P. village, imported from Virginia. His progeny, in the cause of extending hog raising, must now be prodigious. The you Americans advised on improv husbandry—it worked.

They also introduced it of thousands of simple pumps for switching irrigated water from rice paddy ditch. It was a back-breaking job, old way where two people I to swing the water out in 20 scoops. The pump was boon. So were sewing machines.

Success like this was, with objects rather than ideas. Thousands of schools were built in hamlets, descendants of the strategic type which certainly were never the concentration camps they were dubbed by leftists who I never bothered to visit them. From the delta to DALZ, as the slogan was, there was a plethora of works. The Americans installed a system of province hospitals which the French had neglected to provide—true they provided the bulk of the patients.

One American venture, if has carried on despite the Vietnam occupation. The tradition of the Quakers was pure human dedication and their service was unsurpassed.

The one thing Americans Vietnam never had (in and its companion, patience) too often when Vietnam could not, or would not, do v Americans felt was in their interest. The American tempted to do it for him, often succumbed to the temptation. The left a demand which will only be cured by communism.

Fred Em

## The real purpose of China's mission to Paris

The visit to France in May by Mr Teng Hsiao-ping, China's leading deputy prime minister, will mark a new phase in Peking's drive to promote a new united front against the two superpowers and particularly the United States.

Mr Teng, who last visited France more than half a century ago as a young revolutionary, has by now become closely associated with China's "anti-imperialist" policy developed since the 1950s. In essence this policy aims at uniting the nations of the world against the two big nuclear powers, relating the importance of internal class

struggle in foreign countries in favour of close relations between their governments and Peking.

This is a notable shift of policy since the Cultural Revolution, when extremists in the foreign ministry attempted to pin the internal political issues of the countries concerned, Peking is trying to rally as many established governments as possible, be they ever so bourgeois, taking it for granted that the peoples will follow.

The fact that this is a simplification, and a misleading one, has not deterred the Chinese from pushing ahead with their

ostensibly opposing international fascism. China's aim is to oppose the division of the world into spheres of influence by Russia and America. Her tactic is to treat nations like individuals engaged in a worldwide class struggle. Side-stepping the internal political issues of the countries concerned, Peking is trying to rally as many established governments as possible, be they ever so bourgeois, taking it for granted that the peoples will follow.

The fact that this is a simplification, and a misleading one, has not deterred the Chinese from pushing ahead with their

united front policy. They seem equally undeterred by the fact that they wield no significant political influence in Europe, as Stalin did. They see Europe as the focus of "superpower contention" and the likely theatre of the next war.

Peking considers that the real trend of history will be dictated in the end by the Third World countries which account for most of the world's population. The advanced countries—Europe, Japan, Canada, and Australia—which make up the "Second World", will assist the Third World with economic cooperation and technological aid.

David Bon

But China inevitably to lead the bourgeois of the Europeans will dilute them from leadership the world struggle. This is it does not matter much China that her supporters: Europe are mostly conservatives, or small Marxist groups, or politically immature factions with little understanding of her.

Her great message on self-reliant economic development and national liberation and that is above all a message for the poor countries.

David Bon

## The Times Diary

### Far more congenial than Islington

Michael Lespman sets the scene for the Commonwealth Prime Ministers' conference which opens today in Kingston, Jamaica:

Before I left London a friend asked: "Michael, when are you going to get over your fascination with these Commonwealth Prime Ministers' conferences?" A fair question because although this is only the second such jamboree I have reported since taking charge of this Diary, I must have been at four or five before that, in the days when I was a real reporter.

It is a fair question because nothing of substance ever happens at Commonwealth Prime Ministers' conferences. There is always a weight of advance speculation about earnest topics on which decisions could be reached—relations with the EEC, stabilising commodity prices, improving the terms of trade for developing countries, world peace and the like.

Yet what generally happens is that, after an initial mild furor about whether or not some controversial personality (normally an African) will turn up, the meeting degenerates into an attempt to find a common denominator for the commonwealth about Rhodesia. It has to be something which appears

to pin Britain down to endorsing tough action, but which the British can interpret as leaving the plot as loose as to keep all options open. (The atmosphere at these conferences encourages mixed metaphors.)

Last time in Ottawa, Pierre Trudeau was keen to discuss something called comparative techniques of government, which sounds like a subject that should be popular there should be.

Always Wanted to Know about Running a Country but were Afraid to Ask. In the event, as absented was everyone so absorbed that there remained only half a session for discussion of it, and nobody's technique of government changed noticeably—except possibly Edward Heath's, and that was a change for the worse which caused him to lose office shortly afterwards.

This time there is a stronger turnout of central leaders, as opposed to their deputies, than at any previous such conference I can remember. Eric Williams of nearby Trinidad is to stay away, apparently

because he does not get on too well with Michael Manley, the host Prime Minister. Jomo Kenyatta never goes anywhere and Idi Amin does not often.

It used to be fashionable to plead domestic preoccupations as a reason for staying home, but nowadays the leaders see merit in escaping those preoccupations.

Indira Gandhi and Archbishop Makarios must be among those, while for Harold Wilson a polite discussion of world affairs in the plush ballroom of the Pegasus Hotel in downtown Kingston must be preferable to being sniped at by his own party in downtown Islington, whence he is fresh arrived.

### Just in time

The Jamaicans have done their best to make the ballroom seem like a purpose designed conference centre. An oval table and some heavy chairs have been built from Jamaican mahogany. (A special big chair was designed for the large Prime Minister of Tonga, which gave the local press some fun until the Jamaicans decided that the Tongans might take offence and decided that the story should be played down.)

Preparations have not always gone smoothly. The worst misfortune was that a large hotel which was to have housed most of the press corps went out of business at the beginning of the year. So reporters and minor officials have been scattered through a number of small hotels and guest houses, some with dubious reputations.

Everything seems likely to be ready in time, but only just. On Friday, when furniture and equipment were being moved into the press centre in a last-minute rush a television reporter from Benin City, Nigeria, declared herself unimpressed. "It is just like at home," she sighed. "Nothing died up, nothing working, nothing concluded."

There was alarm on Friday when a boat carrying crucial extra supplies of fresh vegetables to feed the hungry delegates was seriously delayed. It was rescheduled until only hours before they were due to sit down to their first vitamin-charged meal.

An investigative report on

local television revealed that supplies of meat were expected to be adequate without augmentation, but there were fears of a shortage of nuts. As for liquor, the host hotels expected to have to burrow deep into their reserves, but it was not thought that extra supplies would have to be supplied.

### Outlook damp

Kingston has had (weather-wise) an unusually dry start to the year, and the reservoirs are low. Water economy measures are in force, and my hotel turns off the supply of water for the host hotels at this time of year and there has been speculation about precisely when it would begin.

Royalists hoped the first drops would fall symbolically as the Queen stopped from her aircraft to begin her royal visit. Those who want Jamaica to become a republic hoped the downpour would mark the arrival of a more radical leader like President Nyerere (which would have been in keeping with precedent, since last time he came to Jamaica there were floods). In the event, the first showers preceded both these auspicious visitors and began to fall at the time I arrived on Thursday.

When do you think we'll reach an unacceptable level of unemployment at the top?



It has come as a mixed blessing. Although the falls have not been specially heavy they have caused power cuts in several parts of the city—the dust on the cables gets wet and causes short circuits. And

the threat of showers has caused the traditional open-air conference launching party at which delegates meet reporters to be moved indoors.

### Walkabout

It rained just before the Queen arrived on Saturday, but stopped in time for her and Prince Philip to do their initial walkabout without umbrellas. It was the first royal walkabout I had attended, and it increased my admiration for the way the Queen and her consort do their jobs. It must be an awful ordeal. Consider, less than an hour earlier, they had finished a long transatlantic flight. Yet before being allowed on to the royal yacht to rest they had to run the gauntlet for 100 yards past crowds of excited Jamaicans and, worse, to strike up banal conversations with some for the benefit of cameramen.

There was no possibility of real communication taking place. Yet any faking, any slippage in the smiles or the bonhomie, would certainly have been recorded and have largely destroyed the purpose of the undertaking.

The Queen, taking the right hand side of the street, chatted

exchanging banter with youths, and fell some distance behind his wife.

The photographers on occasions spy several yards from the Queen, and quickly backwards, in deference but so as to get pictures, and tripping each other's feet. They kept their distance by the cular Ronald Allison, Queen's press secretary, corrals them with austere arms, as though he were tending sheep.

When the Queen a varied bunch of aides, riles and lords-in-waiting, in uniform and some in suits. One carried a p. those mesh back support car seats. The informative son explained that they to stop the Queen's pl mustard-coloured dress sticking to the seat a drove waving through ch crowds.

I expect that he has seen my colleagues may dubbed this the Cyprus forenoon unaccountably, culprits are from Tr. If by chance they have an ashamed to be the i do so.



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## REAL DISPUTE ON STEEL

Conflict between Mr. ha Department of i Sir Monty Finniston, of the British nation, has tended to on the wrong issue. been presented as rather the chairman dined industry in an of public. Here only one answer, people in such posi- or only a right but be public statements in areas of their ence. They may, of moved by the gov- day. The various irment, however, in most cases also they think fit.

ar history of public country is marked stances where char- ized industry and head of statutory been excessively u making use of a this respect. Time ey have taken the hen they disagree poning minister y policy in general, of public silence howed the impor- nce of maintaining confidence. The the conduct of the d Robens, who has experience himself, weekend: "Unless

## CASE FOR MORE SIXTH FORM COLLEGES

al seems to be p- a selective school of mudez size was able to generate a viable sixth form because most pupils stayed on after the minimum leaving age to study in the sixth form. In contrast a contemporary comprehensive school which accepts children of all abilities must be much larger to sustain a similar sixth form because more of its pupils leave at 15.

So the large size of many comprehensive schools has been the cause of much criticism and disquiet, is linked directly with their necessary ability to sustain a viable sixth form. They must be large if the skills of specialist teachers are not to be waste- fully employed and if pupils are to be offered a wide range of courses at A and A level. One way to square this circle is to establish a sixth form college which collects potential sixth formers from a group of local schools which, absolved from the need to maintain their own sixth forms, can be of more modest size and so on a more human scale. The objection to the sixth form college is that by decapitating the secondary school it prevents teaching in the lower school from being enriched through direct contact with sixth form teaching. The absence of sixth form work might also make such schools less attractive to potential teachers.

The second principal advantage of the sixth form college is that it accords with the desire of many young people to continue their education after the age of 16 in a college rather than a school atmosphere. Changing

## OTHER ROUND OF TALKS ON CYPRUS

n diplomacy could n talk-hours, Messrs les and Rauf Denky now have made res to solve netrus problem but world's other cen- It is hard to remem- ever was to, here ever will be, a re two men either broken off their r were not just me them no matter ic or blood. The swept over Cyprus meetings. So it wise to base any peaceful settle- rus simply on the rday they started more (in Vienna, d hailed each other d Clerides" and r and old friend h".

talks were broken vary because the nment took excep- enkrash's unilateral of a "federated" in the Turkish- a of the island. It standably enough,

i Sinai e Hoson John Richmond (April y junior colleague i honour to be, the e international status as still an active one i was in the Egyptian the Foreign Office. der consideration was ould evacuate Egypt ops and build new i Sinai on the East Suez Canal and so strategic position in the

porting the legality of on a retired Egyptian official, Mr. Jennings- ad in a fairly steady Burg-al-Arab to Mr who passed them down r Derek Riches (then

market prospects are excessively poor.

For the majority, even of the present Government, this is surely a perversion of their own policies for what the White Paper called "the regeneration of British industry". There are those who oppose root and branch the purposes of the National Enterprise Board and the powers of the Industry Act, but who can see a case for using these instruments, if they improve the investment levels and productivity of particular industries.

They would accept that the Government should exert itself to lessen the human impact of necessary industrial change, by industrial restructuring, generous redundancy payments and other such assistance. It can, however, make no economic industrial, social, nor in the long run political, sense to turn this policy into one of preserving existing industrial patterns for their own sake. The British Steel Corporation is statutorily bound to behave commercially, as are other nationalized industries. It is this central fact that Sir Monty is defending and which Mr Benn, unilaterally, is trying to challenge. Any commercial institution, and particularly a nationalized industry, is aware of the social and political environment in which it operates and of the realists that these place on its freedom of action. But Sir Monty, by forcing nationalized industries to preserve unrealistic levels of manpower, is condemning them to constant failure.

## Defence of North Sea installations

From Mr Cyril D. Townsend, Conservative MP for Bexleyheath. Sir, On April 11, your Defence Correspondent reported that a group of Soviet naval vessels, including a submarine, took up position near some of Britain's oil rigs. The submarine surfaced near the Odin rig in the Orkney area and was joined by an intelligence gathering vessel. This was the most recent in a series of incidents involving Soviet ships passing near oil and gas installations in the North Sea.

The Government's proposals (outlined in the House of Commons on February 11) for the defence of our North Sea oil and gas installations have already been severely criticized by independent defence experts as being an inadequate and minimum response in the light of possible intentions of any hostile power and the increasing propensity of extreme political groups to resort to sabotage and hijacking activities.

These latest incidents clearly illustrate that they are inadequate in another respect. They fail to provide a deterrent against Soviet forces carrying out their intelligence gathering activities. The Government's proposals provide little more than a patrol and surveillance exercise. The Government intend to bring into service five new ocean-going tugs similar to vessels used at present for fishery protection but they will not be backed up by a helicopter force. Furthermore, the arrangements for the interim period before this new force comes into operation are disturbingly inadequate. They consist of a converted Ministry of Agriculture ship and an ocean-going tug.

Of course it will be an expensive and complicated exercise to provide a more adequate defence of these vulnerable but vital installations. But it must be done. It is simply not good enough for the Secretary of State for Defence to shrug off criticism as he did in an April 15 reply to the House of Commons by explaining the diversity of the nature of the threat. It is an accepted fact that there are enormous problems to be overcome by the technicians and scientists. But an article in *Naval International* (February 1975) was not one indication of the willingness to forward well thought out plans which could provide more comprehensive defence of North Sea installations at reasonable cost.

It appears that the biggest barrier to overcome is a political one, the reluctance of the Government to provide more realistic funds for defence purposes.

Yours faithfully, CYRIL D. TOWNSEND, House of Commons.

## Unemployment benefit

From the Permanent Secretary, Department of Employment. Sir, I feel certain that Alan Hamilton, whose article appeared on page 2 of your issue of April 24, would not wish to convey, even by implication, a misleading impression of the Department of Employment's benefit service.

Cash payment of unemployment benefit is a thing of the past and payment is normally made by post. For years past efforts have been made, eg by cutting down the number of days of compulsory attendance, to reduce the need for queues though this cannot always be avoided in times of particular difficulty.

While an increasing volume of employment work is carried out from new premises of the kind described in the article, continuing programme of improvement of existing premises and acquisition of new premises for benefit work is being carried out with the help of the Property Services Agency. Inevitably, however, in a service with many hundreds of offices across the country, transformation cannot be expected.

Happily, what is common to the whole service, whether in new premises or old, is the sympathetic care and attention of the staff for those they serve.

Yours faithfully, C. F. HERON, Permanent Secretary, Department of Employment, 8 St James's Square, SW1, April 25.

## Overmanning at British Leyland

From Mr G. H. B. Cattel

Sir, As a substantial contributor to the Government's public expenditure fund, may I register strong objection to the proposal to use my money in British Leyland, without insistence on the application of modern work measurement techniques.

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Sir Monty Finniston has already had the courage to speak out on this issue. It is just conceivable that others will now do so and that instead of calling for an explanation of what is meant, the Secretary of State for Industry will reveal what Sir Don Ryder did not, that the reason for British Leyland's overmanning is British Leyland's British steel-making, British printing and British itself are unprofitable but because wages are too high but because performance standards are too low. Indeed, the very fact that British Leyland is an enterprise as almost certainly over-manned.

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Yours faithfully, GRAHAM PACKHAM, President, North London Polytechnic Students' Union, Holloway Road, N7.

## The Chogyal of Sikkim

From Major General Sir Alec Bishop

Sir, I would like to support the views expressed by Mr Brian Croft in his letter of April 18 about the house arrest of the Chogyal of Sikkim, and his sister, Princess Kunkula.

I met the Chogyal on my first visit to Gangtok in 1953, and got to know him quite well during later visits to Sikkim, and his visits to Calcutta. The Chogyal is indeed "an intelligent, enlightened and modern minded man" who was devoted to his task of protecting and helping the different races inhabiting his small mountain state. He was trying to combine political development with the retention of the spiritual and cultural values of the ancient Buddhist faith, and succeeded in establishing in Gangtok an international centre for the study of Buddhist philosophy.

The Chogyal was well aware of the political pressures on his state, and cooperated fully with the Government of India in its control and development of Sikkimese communications, defence and control of its external affairs. It is hard to understand why India, which has shown the world such a high example of responsible, democratic government, could not continue to respect the Government of Sikkim's right, contained in the Treaty of 1950, to conduct their own internal affairs.

Yours faithfully, ALEC BISHOP, Combe Lodge, Beckley, Sussex, April 26.

## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

## Land Bill: finances of charities

From Sir Philip Allen

Sir, I fear that as Chairman of the National Council of Social Service, I must again seek the hospitality of your columns to comment on the impact on charities of proposed new legislation.

Considerable changes affecting charities were made when the Capital Transfer Tax proposals were before Parliament, and for these we were grateful. But we have now been studying with some anxiety certain aspects of the Community Land Bill and the statement by the Inland Revenue on Development Land Tax.

The national council obviously has no wish to challenge, or indeed to make any comments on, the Government's policy to try to ensure that any development value is used for the benefit of the community. It is concerned only with the position of charities. Here, the Inland Revenue statement says that, during the interim period, a charity will not be liable to pay development Land Tax on developing land for its own use, but we cannot see anything about charities in the Bill itself, either for the transitional period or for the ultimate position.

As we read the proposals, therefore (although we may well be wrong in so complicated a matter) the effect on charities would be that those which held land, either as an endowment or for functional purposes, would be deprived of any development value; they would no longer be able to finance their activities and expand their services by means of the skilful management of their land assets and they would, when the transitional period was over, be unable freely to develop their own land for their own purposes.

It is plain that, if the Bill were enacted without amendment on this particular issue, the services offered by many charities would greatly suffer and that, in consequence, increased demands would be made on the resources of the State itself.

Yours faithfully, PHILIP ALLEN, Chairman, The National Council of Social Service, 26 Bedford Square, WC1 April 28.

## Changes in EEC

From Mr Roy Manley

Sir, If the level of debate on Britain's continuing membership of, or withdrawal from, the European Communities is not to sink still further, you may wish to turn the discussion to matters of greater historical moment.

Those of us who are concerned with the future of the country, in the countries of the Nine, and who still stark contrast between European wealth and third world poverty, rarely find this concern reflected in your European news, correspondence or leaders.

Paraphrasing Mr Heath, with unquestioning support from you, stated it all. It was not really a question of the terms his Government negotiated. It was a matter of the attitudes he adopted in taking us in, his contempt for public opinion and his view of a Europe as a rich man's club. It was never block at peace with itself but in competition with others.

But the EEC has changed since then. It has outgrown Mr Heath. In the last two years with its start-line, radical Lomé Agreement and with its program of social policies, it has shown that it does care about the poor inside and outside the Nine. Ironically, this shift in attitude has resulted in part from this Government's determination to re-negotiate the terms of membership, a re-negotiation which has been described as a political device by one side and a sham by the other.

We should then, as big Europeans, welcome the change in the character of the European Community and its application of the decision to re-negotiate, rejoice in the referendum and, in voting to stay in, turn our backs both on the little European and the little Britain who would have us limit our discussion to shopping baskets.

Yours faithfully, ROY MANLEY, 7 Holland Park Court, Holland Park Gardens, W14 April 23.

## Bantu education

From Sir Robert Birley

Sir, The explanation of the apparent discrepancy between Mr Alan Packham's April 17 and Mr Basil (April 19) is quite simple. All the schools referred to by Mr Egan are in South-West Africa.

The practice there was necessarily that of the Republic of South Africa. On September 20 last year the Deputy Minister of Bantu Education stated in Parliament that the per capita expenditure from public funds on African children in the white areas of South Africa for the year 1973-74 was 25.56 rand, but in South-West Africa it was 7.75 rand. The reason for the difference was, he said, because the children in South-West Africa received free "educational meals" by which he meant text-books and stationery.

Incidentally the Deputy Minister stated that over the same period the per capita expenditure on white pupils varied from 387 rands in the Transvaal to 357 rands in Natal.

Yours truly, ROBERT BIRLEY, Lomans, West End, Somerset, Somerset, April 19.

## Exploited

From Mr Arthur Sutton

Sir, To protect myself from exploitation by grasping employers in 1930, I joined a trade union, of which I am still a member. To whom do I now turn to protect myself from exploitation by some of my fellow trade unionists?

Yours faithfully, ARTHUR SUTTON, 21 Nottingham Road, Wandsworth Common, SW17, April 22.

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# THE TIMES

## BUSINESS NEWS

**SKF**  
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SKF (UK) Limited

### Deposed chief of Leyland feels to give evidence motor industry inquiry

Townsend and...  
Barber, the deposed director of British Leyland, made the move of agreeing to give evidence at a public inquiry into the company's collapse which is being held by the Commons...  
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### Mr Benn puts four questions to BSC chief

Sir Monty Finniston, chairman of the British Steel Corporation, was asked four questions by Mr Benn, the Secretary of Industry, during a meeting yesterday...  
Mr Benn had decided to ask Sir Monty to explain a statement that the Corporation's 220,000 workforce required further pruning...  
But he added: "The truth is always the truth. There are still major problems to be solved and they were not solved by this meeting. Reduced power is still necessary. He emphasized the need for discussion with the unions on the jobs issue."

### Ford stand against consumer agency

From Fred Emery  
Washington, April 28  
President Ford, again expressing his opposition to a consumer agency, today said he would oppose a congressional effort to set up a federal agency to protect consumers...  
Price disparities between states can sometimes make a long journey worthwhile to buy an item more cheaply...  
But the anathema he reined on consumers' protection agency in the name of opposing "big government" will in turn be anathema to the growing numbers of "consumerists".

### W German research experts forecast new upturn for economy

Bonn, April 28.—West German research institutes said a quick upturn in the economy is likely, but expressed uncertainty as to its actual timing and intensity...  
In their spring report, the institutes said the recession in the western industrialized countries should ease this year...  
The combined expansionary impact of Germany's financial and monetary policies is so strong that based on the experience of the 1966-67 recession, they should be fully sufficient to induce a new economic upturn, the institutes said...  
They also said unemployment, standing at over one million since January, would not begin to be really affected by the economic improvement until the autumn, just as seasonal unemployment begins to increase.

### Colorado to restrict development of shale oil

From Frank Vogt  
Denver, Colorado, April 28  
America's oil crisis could be resolved, fully eliminating all oil imports within a decade, if shale oil production were allowed. However, many United States oil companies appear to be postponing indefinitely decisions to launch commercial, large-scale, shale mining programmes...  
Because of major uncertainties, exacerbated by new political moves, the outlook for shale mining at the moment looks bleak. Most companies have invested in shale oil are nevertheless still pursuing their research...  
Geologists estimate that there are greater oil reserves in the shale of the Rocky Mountains than in the Persian Gulf. However, the widespread view is that these reserves will not be exploited without huge Federal government subsidies and guarantees and without the direct help from the state authorities. About 80 per cent of the known shale oil reserves are in the state of Colorado.

### 'Disastrous' decline in building is forecast

By Malcolm Brown  
Building industry output would fall another 7.5 per cent in real terms this year, making a drop of more than 14 per cent since 1974, according to the National Council of Building Material Producers predicted yesterday...  
"This staggering fall emphasizes the need for Government to totally rethink its policy towards capital investment," the council said, "urging the Government to 'rectify the present disastrous situation'."

### US petrol tax plan revised

Washington, April 28.—The House Ways and Means Committee today approved a plan to revise the petrol tax...  
The new scheme is a substitute for a previous proposal to impose a 3 per cent a gallon tax next year and a 20 per cent a gallon tax in 1977...  
Mr Ullman, chairman of the committee, said that under the new proposal, petrol taxes would be raised 3 cents next year, and 20 cents in 1977.

### Outlook for savings is 'optimistic'

Cautious optimism about prospects in the current financial year and hopes that the recent upturn in savings would continue are expressed by the National Savings Committee in its annual report, to be presented to the National Savings Assembly in Bournemouth next month...  
The report shows deep concern about the slump in the Government of the 100 savings stamp last year...  
The stamp had for many years been the chief means of saving offered by the grassroots of the voluntary movement.

### Liverpool plants resume work

Work was resumed yesterday after industrial troubles at Courtauld's factory at Aintree, Liverpool, and at the Leyland-Triumph car plants at Speke, Liverpool...  
Over 700 process workers who had been laid off at Courtauld's returned after 180 hours of lay-off...  
The Government's side of the bargain would be to leave the industry "unshackled" and to stop treating it as a "political football".

### £20m rise in companies' stocks

By Tim Congdon  
Manufacturers' stocks rose by £20m in February after showing no change in January, according to provisional estimates released yesterday by the Department of Industry...  
This increase follows a massive build-up in stocks by manufacturing industry in the second half of last year, which was widely considered to be involuntary and a reflection of weak demand...  
The figures will be considered slightly surprising as most forecasts are predicting a large reduction in the level of stocks held by manufacturers and distributors. This reduction is expected as a response to falling demand and to the high cost of financing stocks with present interest rates.

### End price control, food chiefs say

By Hugh Clayton  
Appeals for an end to price control on food distribution were made yesterday by leaders of the industry...  
Mr John Sainsbury, chairman of the Food and Drink Industries Council, and Mr John Sainsbury, chairman of the Retail Consortium, said that the Price Code should be succeeded by something more flexible...  
They were speaking in Brighton at the annual convention of the Institute of Grocery Distribution...  
Mr Lawrence said that in recent years margins in the food processing industry had dropped from 5.5 per cent to 2.5 per cent and that the return on capital employed had been consistently below the cost of borrowing money.

## How Standard and Chartered help you with your business in Zambia

If you have business in Zambia our Group can offer you a full and comprehensive service, with a network of no less than 58 branches and offices to cover the whole country.

Each one is ready to help you with a professionalism and depth of local knowledge that could be very important to your business.

The services and resources we offer you in Zambia are backed and strengthened by the world-wide capability of the Standard and Chartered Banking Group.

We have a unique network of 1500 branches and Group offices in 60 countries throughout Europe, Africa, Asia, the Middle and Far East, Australia and the Americas.

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Liverpool 051-250 3423 Manchester 061-236 7437 Manchester 061-236 7437

### MANUFACTURERS' STOCK

The following are figures of changes in manufacturers' stocks and work in progress published by the Department of Industry:

Month	1973	1974	1975
Jan	148	100	0
Feb	51	138	20
Mar	58	299	
Apr	99	99	
May			
Jun			
Jul			
Aug			
Sep			
Oct			
Nov			
Dec			

### How the markets moved

Market	Change
FT index	134.74 - 0.68
FT 100	327.9 - 4.7
Gold	rose by 25 cents to \$166 1/2
Oil	rose by 1.25 to \$10.25
Commodities	rose by 1.25 to \$10.25

### THE POUND

Country	Rate
Australia	1.82
Belgium	36.00
Canada	86.75
Denmark	13.30
France	6.55
Germany	3.36
Greece	11.00
Hong Kong	11.00
Italy	172.00
Japan	235.00
Netherlands	3.60
Norway	12.10
Portugal	20.75
Spain	166.00
Sweden	4.60
Switzerland	6.45
USA	2.94



## Tax returns of self-employed 'defy belief'

By Tim Condon

Reporting of incomes to the Inland Revenue "of any but those truly in employment" is "very unreliable" according to the Inland Revenue Staff Federation. Indeed, the self-employed made such low returns to the Inland Revenue that it was "an inescapable conclusion" that reported incomes "defy belief".

The Federation was giving evidence to the Royal Commission on the Distribution of Income and Wealth. The Commission has finished taking evidence for the time being and has moved on to higher incomes. "Directors of companies undoubtedly enjoy very much higher standards of living than their taxed salaries would suggest", the Federation claims. Those in control of authority in companies have been "able to manipulate cash and expense accounts, to decide when and where to travel and with whom, to command the availability and use of accommodation, cars, planes and boats".

The Federation particularly emphasized the use of company cars as a method of avoiding payment of taxes. "Certain benefits, notably company cars, have spread well down the salary scales."

The Federation argues in conclusion that "only with truly progressive direct taxes is it likely that a fairer distribution of incomes will be brought about."

## SEC announces disclosure rules for earnings

Washington, April 28.—The Securities and Exchange Commission announced proposed rules concerning the disclosure of projected earnings and other performance information by companies registered under the Federal Securities Laws.

Its position of last year that it did not intend to require a company to disclose its projections to the public is restated by the SEC. The proposals are intended to incorporate company projections into the disclosure system of the securities laws when a registrant has chosen to make projections available to the public.

The proposed rules would define a projection to be a statement made by a company regarding material future revenues, sales, net income or earnings per share, or a confirmation by a company of such a statement made by another person.—Reuters.

## Pirelli given shot in the arm with £10m Russian tyre plants contract

From John Earle Rome, April 28

Pirelli has signed with the Soviet Union a \$23.3m (nearly £10m) contract to supply production lines for metal-belted radial tyres which company officials say will enable the Russians to enter this field of manufacture for the first time.

Though the greater part of the contract will be fulfilled by Industrie Pirelli, it is expected that about \$2m worth of work will fall to the British side of the Dunlop-Pirelli union.

The agreement, signed last Friday, is understood to cover provision of equipment and know-how to bring into service three production lines in Moscow, White Russia, and for industrial vehicles at the Kama plant.

Delivery of equipment is to take between 16 and 27 months. This timetable should make it possible for Pirelli to end short-time working at two of its north Italian plants and guarantee full employment for about one and a half years.

## Iran decree widens share ownership

Tehran, April 28.—Iran has ordered that 99 per cent of the shares of most state-owned industries and 49 per cent of privately owned industries be made available for sale to the public. Oil and related companies were excluded.

The decree gives workers first priority on buying shares in the companies which employ them.

Mr. Hushang Ansari, the minister of economic affairs and finance, said the decree will make it possible to bring back hundreds of millions of dollars in Iranian private capital invested abroad.

The Shah visualizes Tehran as a financial centre, expanding the small stock exchange. He has invited large American financial concerns like Merrill Lynch to set up operations in the capital.—AP-Dow Jones.

## Power station cuts as demand falls

Almost half the generating capacity at Plymouth power station is to be shut down because of a fall in the industrial demand for electricity.

Three 30-megawatt low pressure units will be taken out of service over the next 12 months.

News of the agreement should be a shot in the arm for Industrie Pirelli on the eve of its annual meeting in Milan tomorrow, at which the two shareholders (Pirelli SPA 51 per cent and Dunlop Holdings 49 per cent) will have before them a further loss, under Italian accounting principles, of 11,300m lire (£7.6m) for 1974.

Though this is less than the 1973 loss (16,800m lire), the two years together exceed one-third of the share capital, which under Italian law requires a capital writedown and consequent refinancing.

The meeting tomorrow may decide to convene a special assembly to consider outside funding. There is no indication where funds may come from, and under arrangements made when Industrie Pirelli first ran into trouble Dunlop has been absorbed of all financial commitment for its recovery.

Despite its financial difficulties, Industrie Pirelli is actively pursuing new lines of development. In its traditional sectors, it is going ahead with development of a revolutionary triangular motor tyre based on

## Government urged to give oil groups a freer hand

By Roger Viotvove

Government recognition of the need to provide multinational oil companies with "effective operating latitude" is the key question concerning the future of these companies, Mr. R. R. Dorsey, chairman of Gulf Oil, said yesterday.

Without this operating latitude, he told the British-American Chamber of Commerce, the companies would not be able to operate efficiently and generate capital for new activities.

Another consideration, he said, was whether the companies would be so restricted by governmental regulations that they became only an operating arm of a government.

An atmosphere conducive to profitable operation of the multinational companies was the only option which would provide the needed energy supplies and enable the companies to anticipate and continually adjust to society's ever-changing needs.

In the North Sea the multinational were at their own expense making great financial risk in pioneering exploration work.

"Recently the British Government appears to be more cognizant of the companies' contributions, and that the greatest progress will be made by two groups working together in constructive partnership."

Production down: Oil output in Venezuela has dropped below the 2.6 million barrels a day mark for the first time in 10 years. The ministry of mines and hydrocarbons said production in the first four months of this year averaged 2.95 million barrels a day, compared with 3.19 million barrels daily during the 1974 period.

French yard sees promise in factory ships. Paris, April 28.—Chantiers de l'Atlantique, the French shipyard based at Nantes, is considering building floating factories in a big way, according to industry sources here.

The company, which has some 500,000-ton super tankers on order and can build vessels of a million tons, has had only two cancellations so far, arising from the death of Mr. Aristotle in the Greek shipowner, the sources said.

But the company is aware that orders were being cancelled on a large scale internationally, and it saw factoryships as a promising new venture.—Agence France Presse.

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## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

### Employment Bill still worries the CBI

From Mr Campbell Adamson

Sir, While I would be glad to accept Mr Wigham's assurance (April 22) that "most employers can sleep easy in their beds" and that the CBI is worrying needlessly about the proposals in the Employment Protection Bill dealing with recognized terms and conditions of employment, I am afraid that his article does not convince us that our worries are groundless.

Let us restate our case. First Section 8 of the Terms and Conditions of Employment Act, 1959, provides that where an employer is not observing the terms and conditions laid down by agreement for his industry, a trade union or employees organization may take him before the Industrial Arbitration Board, which, if it finds the complaint well founded, may order him to comply with recognized terms and conditions. So far so good.

Secondly, the Fair Wages Resolution, which applies to Government contracts only, contains a similar provision, but goes on to provide that where there is no relevant agreement, the contractor must observe terms and conditions not less favourable than the

general level observed by other employers whose general circumstances in the trade or industry in which the contractor is engaged are similar.

As Mr Wigham explains, the broad purpose of the change proposed in the Employment Protection Bill is, broadly speaking, to extend the applicability of the principles of the Fair Wages Resolution to employers generally, thus enabling, for example, an independent union to refer to the Advisory, Conciliation and Arbitration Service cases where an employer fails to observe the general level of terms and conditions applied to comparable employees in the same trade or industry in the same district.

This is a matter of grave concern since it will enable claims to be made for payment of the district average "or all those firms paying below average. Your readers will appreciate that this is a statement of statistical fact. Thus there will be created the prospect of an inflationary chase of the district average."

It is, of course, a simple statistical exercise to show that the theoretical effect of raising to the average level all those who, at any one time, fall below the average is even-

ually to raise everyone to the highest level.

In practice, of course, the highest paid will long before then have sought, through collective bargaining, restoration of their differentials. This will undermine the established basis of collective bargaining and pay determination by ignoring considerations of the level of effort and output associated with particular tasks, and make "parity" a legitimate argument of claims.

The details of this matter are complicated: a rebuttal of Mr Wigham's optimism would require reference to recent decisions of the Industrial Arbitration Board and the High Court under the Fair Wages Resolution; a letter designed for your columns not, I think, the best place for such detail.

Suffice it to say that the CBI and its major employers organizations feel that concern on this matter is, alas, entirely justified and we shall strive as vigorously as we can to the provisions altered.

Yours faithfully,  
CAMPBELL ADAMSON,  
Confederation of British Industry,  
21 Torkhill Street,  
London, SW1.

### Protecting UK workers from textile imports

From Mr G. C. Howarth

Sir,—The letter from Mr Francis Friddleaux (April 23) is yet another parrot-like repetition of the reasons why import controls should not be introduced to assist against what he describes as the primeval problems of Lancashire, and to the detriment of less fortunate nations.

I would be bold enough to suggest that he is totally unaware of the day-to-day workings of the Lancashire textile industry, one which has more than pulled itself up by its own boot straps over the past 20 years. In fair trading my company is more than competitive, witnessed by our success in exporting spun yarn into Europe. We even export into America where the dumping laws are put into effect on the quayside and not six months later when the damage has already been done, as occurs in the United Kingdom.

If your correspondent chooses to accuse us of demanding protection, then so be it. The protection we are seeking, however, is not against fair competition but against imports such as recent case where spun cotton yarn was being freely offered in Lancashire at a price, delivered and duty paid, below the lowest world price of raw cotton fibre quoted over the past 12 months.

To be more explicit, the costs of spinning, packaging, shipping and duty were all conveniently ignored and yet any attempt to establish a case of dumping would take far, far longer than that yarn would require to become finished fabric and cause market dislocation, but with no price advantage to the ultimate consumer.

Yours faithfully,  
G. C. HOWARTH,  
4 Heald Drive,  
Bowdon, Altrincham,  
Cheshire.

### Record budget for Emirates

Abu Dhabi, April 28.—United Arab Emirates has more than doubled development project spending, as seen in this year's budget.

The 2,778m dirham (about £300m) budget, the biggest in the UAE's three-year existence, allocates 971m dirham to development projects.

Approved by the Supreme Council of Rulers on Sunday, the budget created 4,313 jobs in the civil service. It also showed that the UAE this year will receive just over 112m dirham from investments abroad.—AP-Dow Jones.

### Sainsbury buys £1.4m dual ICL system

J. Sainsbury, the supermarket chain, has ordered a dual ICL 2900 system worth more than £1.4m. The exact model within the 2900 series has not been announced; by implication, it is either a 2950 or 2960 medium-scale system.

The only models officially announced to date by ICL in the 2900 series are the 2970 and 2980 at the top end of the range. But the 2950 and 2960 models were mentioned in ICL appointments and models other than the 2970 and 2980 are believed to be already under construction for particular customers.

The Sainsbury system, to be delivered in 1977 for a new computer centre at the company's headquarters at Blackfriars, London will be used to develop further the existing on-line food distribution systems used by the company.

### Digital Equipment mini

Two new minicomputer systems developed by Digital Equipment Corporation were shown yesterday in London at the Computermarket Exhibition at the Bloomsbury Centre Hotel. One is the "Classic" educational computer; the other is the Datasystem 310, claimed to be the lowest-cost, fully programmable, disc-based business computer system currently available on the market.

First European customer for the Classic is Dundee University, where it will be used in the Department of Engineering. Based on a PDP-8 minicomputer, the system costs £4,490 and, according to DEC, can be operated for less than 50p per student-hour.

Price of the Datasystem 310 is £7,990, or less for quantity orders. Central processor in this system is the PDP-8A.

Add-on memories for mini-computers are being shown at Computermarket (which continues until tomorrow, April 30) by Plessey Memories. Memories for Data General and Digital Equipment computers in particular are being featured.

Other new minicomputers are being exhibited by Allied Business Systems and by Systime.

### Computer news

The ABS system is known as Multibus 2; it is designed to provide auto-programming using interactive terminals in connexion with an interactive version of the RPG-2 programming language.

The single-terminal disc-based minicomputer introduced by Systime is known as the Series 1000. Aimed at users of conventional accounting machines, computer bureaux or visible record computers, it uses a simplified Cobol-type language and a visual display unit with input keyboard.

GEC Computers are showing a GEC 2050 remote job entry terminal which is linked to an IBM 370 Model 158 mainframe at the London operations centre of ROC Computer Services.

### Honeywell's offer

A computer-based marketing and purchasing system which brings buyer and seller together in conditions of complete anonymity is being offered to oil companies in Britain by the network information services division of Honeywell.

The system is available via the General Electric Mark 3 International time-sharing service, which is distributed in Europe by Honeywell Software and has been developed and is maintained by Telemarketing International of Dallas, Texas.

Sixteen of the main United States oil companies are already subscribers to the system. About five million barrels of oil are typically on offer via the system at present. Using teletypewriter terminals linked through the network to a computer centre in Cleveland, Ohio, subscribers put up offers on the system or bids and counter-bids against the offers.

Only when a bid is accepted are the identities of buyer and seller revealed to each other. Confirmation of the deal is then made conventionally.

Kenneth Owen



## SCOTTISH PROVIDENT SUCCESS

Points from the Statement by the Chairman, Mr. M. D. Pentland, C.A.

### Record new business

Despite the financial and other uncertainties, the Scottish Provident once again achieved record new business figures. Details are given in the Directors' Report and you will see that new annual premiums have increased by some 20%, while new sums assured and new annuities have increased by 14% and 24% respectively. In 1974 new staff pension and life assurance scheme business of all kinds made a particularly significant contribution to the increase in our new business.

### Investment strength

My predecessors in the chair have emphasised that, from the point of view of a life assurance company, it is the income-producing power of the assets which is of fundamental importance, rather than their market value on any particular day. They were making the observation at times when the market value of our assets greatly exceeded their book value, but the point remains valid at a time such as the end of 1974 when asset values stood well below their previous levels. Our assets are invested so as to provide the benefits under our policies as and when they fall due, whether those benefits are sums assured on death or maturity, or regular annuity and pension payments. Provided the assets continue to produce the income expected, the benefits under our policies remain secure and the bonus prospects of our with-profits policyholders remain unimpaired; indeed these prospects may be enhanced by an increase in the general level of interest rates.

### Bonus declaration

I can give no better illustration of this than the record reversionary bonuses we have been able to declare as at 31st December 1974, despite all the uncertainties of recent years. I would mention in particular the bonus of £4.30% per annum on immediate-profits policies and that of £5.00% per annum on "self-employed" and "E type" deferred annuities. Ordinary interim bonuses in the current triennium are being allowed at the same increased rates.

### Protection of policyholders

There frequently exists the temptation to assist those who may sustain a loss by making use of funds which properly belong to some third party; it is all too easy to be generous with someone else's money. One must conclude that the Government has been unable to resist this temptation for, despite the long history of co-operation between the life assurance industry and the Department of Trade on other matters and the closely reasoned opposition of the

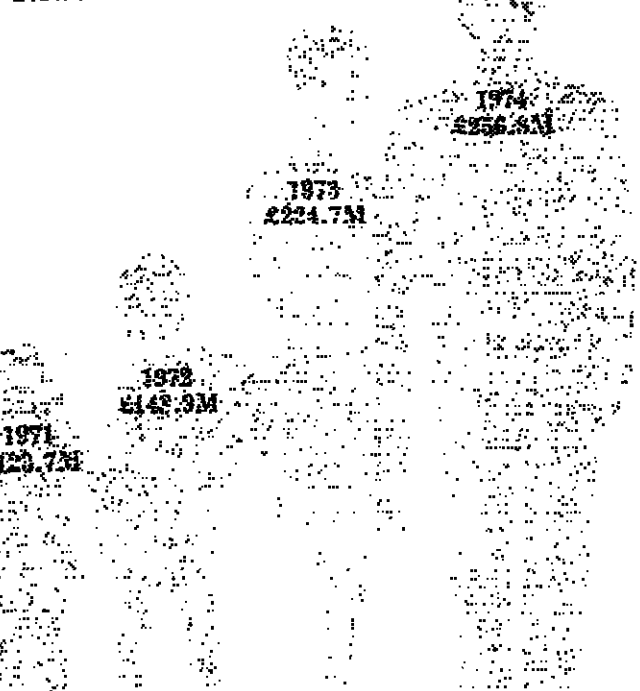
industry to the proposal, the authorities seem determined to press ahead with their plans for a guarantee scheme—supposedly for the protection of life policyholders.

### Guarantee scheme valueless

I must make it quite clear that the only companies likely to require a guarantee scheme are those of a specialised nature often issuing contracts which have little to do with life assurance as such. By contrast the traditional life offices have developed a structure which has enabled the industry to survive and progress over many generations. Their with-profits policyholders contribute substantially more than is required to provide the benefits guaranteed in their policies and in return for providing this security they are entitled to receive additional benefits by way of bonuses. It is a tribute to the stability and careful management of the established life offices that rates of reversionary bonus have in general been maintained during an extremely difficult period. The policyholders of these life offices will have to contribute to the scheme but can hardly expect to benefit from it. The so-called guarantee scheme will therefore be valueless as far as the great majority of life assurance policyholders are concerned. It is unfair to the ordinary saver with the traditional life assurance company and undesirable in discouraging common prudence in the insurance market.

### Progress

New sums assured



**SCOTTISH PROVIDENT**  
for Mutual Life Assurance  
Head Office:  
6 St. Andrew Square, Edinburgh EH2 2YA

Copies of the Report & Accounts are available on request from the Head Office.

## AULT & WIBORG GROUP LTD.

Salient points from the Statement by the Chairman, Mr. John McLaren

- Group pre-tax profits for year to 31 December 1974 £1,819,000 as compared with £1,339,000 for previous nine-month period.
- To control effects of inflation, inventories are being reduced and a tighter control of customer credit applied.
- All divisions made good technical and marketing progress in 1974 in spite of shortages of some key raw materials. The acquisition of Warwick Chemical (Yorkshire) Ltd will permit the planned expansion of the Resin and Chemicals Division.

PRINTING INKS · PRINTERS' ROLLERS & SUNDRIES · CONTAINER COATINGS · RESINS & CHEMICALS · AUTOMOBILE & INDUSTRIAL FINISHES · SPECIALIST COATINGS, FLOORINGS & LININGS

## LAMBERT HOWARTH GROUP LIMITED

FOOTWEAR MANUFACTURERS

Summary—year ended 31st December 1974

	1974	1973
Turnover	£1,819,000	£1,339,000
Profit before Taxation	503	325
Profit after Taxation	325	253
Profit retained	163	163
Depreciation charged	163	163
Net Assets employed	2,279	2,279
Issued Capital: Redeemable Preference	64	64
Ordinary	600	600
Per 20p Ordinary Share—		
Earnings	10.9p	10.9p
Dividends (net)	2.44p	2.44p

The Group is a major supplier to Marks & Spencer Limited, whom it has been trading since 1926. Business increased again a record level in 1974.

It also supplies leading wholesale and multiple chains and minicent mail order groups and has exclusive distribution rights GANNEX slippers.

The Annual General Meeting is being held today in Burnley subject to declaration thereof, the Final Ordinary Dividend 1.64p per share will be paid later today.

The Chairman, Mr. C. L. Howarth, has stated that unless it is a serious setback due to prevailing national economic conditions, the Group should be able to give a good account of activities in 1975.

BURNLEY & ROSENDALE · LANCASHIRE







# Slough Estates Profits up to £4.23 million

Group well financed for further development

## Extracts from the 1974 Annual Report

	December 31st 1974	December 31st 1973
Profit before tax	£4,231,000	£3,993,000
Group rental income (home)	£4,365,000	£3,934,000
Group rental income (overseas)	£1,788,000	£1,325,000
Gross dividend per share for the year	2.570p	2.293p

**Home** Progress has been maintained during 1974, despite the problems which have faced business as a whole and the property market in particular. Due to the continued control of business rents, rental income for the year was approximately £875,000 less than it would have been. Nevertheless, demand for factories and warehouses on the Company's 10 estates remained at a high level and new development continued apace. Floor space increased by 317,000 square feet.

**Overseas** Demand for space remained at a fairly constant level, despite difficult conditions in most countries. The Canadian company again improved its pre-tax profits, this time by 35% to £1,417,000. Another 370,000 square feet of space was constructed and a new 25-acre site was acquired close to Montreal International Airport with the first phase of construction already underway. The Group's developments in Canada, Australia, Belgium and France are expected to continue their contribution to the Group results during 1975.

**Future** The Group has substantial long and short-term financial resources at its disposal after its recent borrowing of £10.5 million and the Board remains confident that pre-tax profit in 1975 will be substantially increased. A total of 1,154,000 square feet of new factory and warehouse space was let during the 12 months to 31st December. Of this, some 605,000 square feet was overseas. The level of occupancy on all UK estates remains very high and the majority of leases will benefit from the government's decision to abolish statutory controls on business rents. However, due to the high cost of money, inflation, taxation and the uncertainties of the market, the rate of development that has been achieved in recent years is being reduced in 1975. Nevertheless, some 500,000 square feet of space is scheduled for completion during the year and additions can be made if demand increases.

1974 Annual Reports now available from The Secretary:



**Slough Estates Ltd.**

234 Bath Road, Slough SL1 4EE. Telephone: Slough 37171  
Telegrams: Sloudeplm Slough. Telex: 847604

# BBA Group Ltd



"The results for 1974 indicate a striking change in the sources of profit for the Group. They show that our fortunes are by no means entirely bound up with those of the motor industry, but that we also have a valuable stake in various industrial markets, as well as in the relatively stable automotive replacement market. ... As long as there is no general worsening of the industrial climate, profits for 1975 are likely to be higher than those of 1974."

— Michael Pearson, Chairman.

□ Group sales at £68,584,000 were 23.1% higher than in 1973 whilst the balance of trading rose only 4.7%. Because of a depreciation charge which was 25% more, and bank and loan interest of £1,438,000, the Group profit before tax was £4,085,000, a fall of 15%.

□ 1974 was an extremely difficult year for those companies in the Group which engage principally in activities connected with the automotive industry. The overall result for this sector was a modest increase in sales, producing only half the profit earned in 1973.

□ In contrast, the Group's industrial

activities had an excellent year. Overall, sales were increased by approximately 50% and profit was almost doubled. This was achieved through remarkable results in the field of belting and industrial textiles.

□ Overseas companies provided 53% of the sales and 62% of the Group pre-tax profit. Direct exports from the UK at £8,109,000 were a record and, together with sales by overseas companies, accounted for 65% of overall Group sales.

□ A final dividend of 1.63p per share brings the total dividend for the year to 2.42p per share against 2.18p for 1973. This is covered 2.2 times by earnings.

## FIVE YEAR RECORD

	1974	1973	1972	1971	1970
Group Sales	£66,534	£4,071	£4,438	£38,436	£38,371
Group Profit before taxation	4,085	4,806	4,192	3,896	2,870
Earnings per share	1.766	2.070	2.033	1.683	1.443
Dividends per share - p	5.23	6.14	6.03	5.19	4.47
Capital Employed	28,950	22,935	19,663	17,700	15,711

Minie Ltd · Scandura Ltd · Cresswell's Asbestos Company Ltd  
Sovex Marshall Ltd · Versal Ltd · Regina Glass Fibre Ltd · Comprehensive  
Computer Services Ltd · Reiko Ltd · BBA Properties Ltd  
Overseas Subsidiaries in West Germany · United States · Spain · Canada  
France · Australia · South Africa.



## FINANCIAL NEWS AND MARKET REPORTS

### 80 per cent jump takes Jefferson Smurfit to £9m for full year

By Anthony Rowley

Trading profits at Jefferson Smurfit, the Irish packaging and paper group, jumped to £9m last year against £5m in the previous year. This 80 per cent increase compares with more than trebled trading profits of £4.4m at the interim stage.

Smurfit says that demand for many group products was depressed in the early months

of this year and that it is taking a "cautious view" of the immediate outlook. However, demand is understood to be reviving in certain packaging areas and nearly two-thirds of Smurfit's business is tied to fairly stable areas of the food industry.

A final dividend of 6p a share is recommended, making a total of 10p for the year—an increase of 77.8 per cent over the previous year.

### Bryant recovering, but too late for this term

Although the outlook for trading is picking up, interim profits at Bryant Holdings are down from £1.5m to £680,000 and the second half is expected to be similar—pointing to a total for the year of about £1.35m, compared with £2.5m last term and the record £4m, achieved in 1973.

Funds continue to flow into building societies and the outlook for the private housing

field is brighter with current sales described as being "particularly good".

Turnover, meanwhile is ahead from £19.7m to £21.8m, and the dividend is maintained at 1.1p gross.

The results reflect the company's economic state in the latter part of 1974 with margins on private housing being squeezed between higher building costs and static selling prices.

### Export growth stimulus in Camrex 88 pc profit jump

On turnover up 27.8 per cent at £14.6m, Camrex (Holdings) managed to boost pre-tax profits by 88.6 per cent from £796,000 to £1.5m in the year to December 31.

Mr Alex Cameron, chairman, was reluctant yesterday to forecast the prospects for this year, except to say that trading volume is already higher compared with the same period. However, with a new office opened in Dubai and exports up last year by 52 per cent from £2.7m to £4.1m the company is clearly looking for substantial

growth in overseas markets.

The disparity between the growth in turnover and pre-tax profits last year is partly explained by the growth in local currencies the company has benefited from the devaluation of sterling while at the same time being able to achieve a greater return by not being hampered by price controls.

Earnings stand at 8.74p per share against 5.27p. A second interim dividend of 2.13p gross against 1.9p has already been declared, giving a total of 4.13p against 3.68p.

### Reed tops £1m but 'net' is down

The interim setback in profits at Reed Executive was mainly caused by initial losses of the Medicare self-service drug store units, and as all units are now contributing to central costs, group profits have improved.

Taxable profits have risen from £969,000 to £1m—the first time that the group has topped £1m—on turnover up from £10.2m to £11.9m.

However, at the attributable level, profits are down from £541,000 to £393,000 and the dividend is cut from 5.51p to 6.19p. Earnings a share from 13.95p to 12.19p. The contribution from employment agencies went up by 15 per cent.

The board says that the fall in profits is almost solely due to a bigger tax charge, although there is also a £33,000 charge for extraordinary items, compared with a credit of £53,000 last term.

### Jas Shipstone at peak £1.4m

Growth continues at James Shipstone & Sons, the Nottingham-based brewery group, which also controls Beeston Brewery and County Hotels (Nottingham). Taxable profits for 1974 are up from £1.37m to a record £1.4m, on turnover of £8.9m, against £7.6m.

Earnings a share are up from 16.1p to 17.1p, while the dividend is raised from equal to 6.37p to 7.05p.

The board states that the group's properties, which are carried on the books at £6.24m, are worth at least £10m.

### Lockwoods up 44 pc in first half

Lincolnshire-based Lockwoods Foods, which carries on business as fruit, vegetable and meat canners and packers of other meat products, have made a good start to the year ending on May 31 with taxable profits at half-time showing a 44 per cent gain from £452,000 to £707,000.

Tax takes £340,000 against £248,000 leaving the net balance at £367,000 against £244,000. The board says sales increased during the first half and add that it is possible that the rate of increase can be maintained in the second half. But they warn that there are signs that the exceptionally mild weather is having some retarding effect.

### BPM setback

In his last annual report, the outgoing chairman of BPM Holdings (formerly Birmingham Post & Mail) Sir Eric Clayton, said that the outlook was favourable, although the group's underlying strength was unimpaired.

Interim profits are now to hand and show a rise in turnover from £12.7m to £14.9m, but a drop before tax to a profit of £821,000, against £1.56m. Earnings a share are 9.8p, against 13.7p, while the dividend is raised from 0.65p to 0.66p gross.

### Martin Ford peak

Reporting fresh record pre-tax profit up 15 per cent to £952,000 for the year to November 30, ladies' separates and outerwear group Martin Ford has also made a good start to the present term. Turnover for the latest period rose 20 per cent to £36.3m. Earnings per share work out at 3.53p against 3.58p, while the total payment is raised from 1.91p to 2.11p. Trading for the first quarter of

the current year again shows big increases and another peak year is confidently forecast.

### M. Y. Dart's 29 pc interim gain

In the half-year to December 31 taxable profits of M. Y. Dart, the sports equipment group, has made good headway with a 29 per cent gain in taxable profits from £432,000 to £558,000 and a 31 per cent jump in turnover from £2.95m to £3.85m. In the first quarter of 1975 sales have been well maintained. Exports continue to account for more than 70 per cent of turnover of the sporting goods division. But the packaging side is suffering a period of low demand in marked contrast to the high demand experienced last year. None the less the chairman is confident of reporting improved results for the full year.

### S. Lyles plummet

After returning record profits of £1.28m last year a severe downturn in trading conditions caused by destocking in the home market and at the same time an almost total collapse of the group's Australian market of S. Lyles the Yorkshire-based carpet yarn spinners and dyers caused half-time taxable profits to plummet from £701,000 to £31,000. Earnings per share were cut from 8.04p to 1.01p and the interim dividend from 3.73p to 1.54p.

In the second half although trading has continued at a disappointing level the group's exports to the EEC are particularly satisfactory but the board says they view with apprehension the forthcoming referendum. Withdrawal from the EEC could have a significant effect on the group's future business and employment prospects.

### Samuelson Film

A slight dip in interim taxable profits from £262,000 to £260,000 at Samuelson Film Service points to a halt in growth but the board indicates that the final results should not be very different from the record £404,000 achieved last year.

In this event the dividend would be maintained at 11.23p; meanwhile the interim is cut from 7.46p to 4.62p, although a second interim payment will be considered later.

### Arklow injection

Fenar Investment Trust is to inject some £100,000 into Arklow Pottery. It is proposed that Fenar will receive 357,000 new Arklow ordinary representing 29.8 per cent of the enlarged capital, at an issue price of 28p per share. In addition Fenar will receive a four-

## Stock markets

### Shares rally after poor start

On the stock market, gilt edged securities continued to move downwards yesterday, and equities were largely neglected by the major investment institutions. Profit taking by the market punters cut share prices back quite sharply at one time. But equity indices staged good recoveries in the final hour of trading, with property shares attracting buyers.

The FT index slipped by 9.5 points at one time but rallied to close at 327.9, a net 4.7 off. But a more accurate picture of the day came from the re-

the close, ICI had rallied from 233p to 238p, a net 1p down. Courtaulds from 105p to 109p (unchanged on the day) and Flisons from 359p to 369p, a net 3p up.

Among the consumers, shares in British Home Stores stood at 348p while awaiting the results. But the immediate response was a dip in the price to 339p as profits were taken by the bulls who bought the shares last week. Later, as the substantial rise in profits was more fully appreciated, the shares rose to 346p, a net 2p higher on the day.

Bank and insurance shares followed the market trend to close at or near their overnight levels after a poor start. Sun Alliance were a firm spot at 425p as the rights issue announcement was absorbed.

In properties, Land Securities, firm throughout, closed strongly at 230p, and M&P (200p) also moved up.

Shares in BP dipped to 423p initially as the market weighed up reports that Iran is negotiating to buy the share stake taken over from Barmah by the Bank of England. But the shares later rallied to 430p, only 1p off. Shares in Barmah firm to 36p. Shell (287p) also rallied strongly.

Gold shares opened lower, rallied to end with net falls around £1. Australian mining weakened behind the investment dollar premium.

Equity turnover on April 27.56m (20,867). Active stock according to Exchange Telegraph, ICI, Tate & Lyle, B Courtaulds, Grand Metropolitan, Thorn "A", Tubes in Shell, BICC and Beecham.

Hints of higher interest rates in America and tight conditions in London money markets continued to unsettle gilts. Sterling's failure to recover from

Dealing commenced in London yesterday in shares in Decler the latest of the Gold Fields group mines. In the nil form the shares touched before closing at 28p.

Last week's levels also affect sentiment adversely.

Losses in the morning were sharp. All sections of the market tended to be in point Friday's closing level. "Shorts" then rallied and generally 1 point off on the day. But "longs" found little support, even at the low levels, and eventually closed only 1 point above the day worst.

## Latest dividends

All dividends in new pence or appropriate currencies	Div	Year	Pay	Year's	Prev
(and par values)	div	ago	date	total	year
BPM Holdings (E1) Int	0.66	0.63	27/5	10.5	9.37
Brit Home Srs (25p) Fin	5.42	5.42	—	5.66	5.12
Brit Inv Trst (25p) Fin	2.83	2.42	17/6	2.57	2.37
Bryant Hldgs (25p) Int	1.1	1.1	30/5	—	—
David Charles (10p) Int	0.96	0.93	1/7	—	—
Cullen's Stores (20p) Int	1.0	1.0	30/5	—	—
R. & W. Hthm, L (30p) Int	2.08	2.08	—	4.18	3.8
Helene Gold Int	1.77	1.68	—	0.77	0.68
John Laing (25p) Fin	1.61	1.61	—	3.1	2.75
S. Lyles (20p) Int	1.54	3.73	1/7	—	—
Macfarlane Gp (25p) Fin	2.32	2.8	—	4.29	3.8
M. Y. Dart (10p) Int	0.79	0.79	2/7	1.04	1.41
New Guinea Gold Int	3.52	NH	—	NH	NH
Reed Executive (5p) Fin	1.54	3.01	—	6.19	5.51
Samuelson Film (20p) Int	4.62	7.46	9/6	—	—
Jefferson Smurfit (25p) Fin	6.0	4.01	—	10.0	9.62
Swan Hunter (E1) Fin	4.12	4.02	4/7	8.26	7.35
Tootal (25p) Fin	2.82	1.75	4/7	3.0	2.75
Wadkin (50p) Fin	3.94	3.5	5/6	6.73	6.0

\* At least 11.23p promised. † Adjusted for scrip. ‡ To date. § Includes non-recurring dividend of 0.51p (0.55p). c Cents a share.

## THE HALIFAX BUILDING SOCIETY

### Notice to existing and intending investors and depositors.

The Directors of the Halifax Building Society announce that in accordance with the recent recommendation of the Council of the Building Societies Association the Society intends to pay the undermentioned rates of interest on the following kinds of investments from 1st June 1975:-

**Paid-Up Shares Class 2** —  
£7.00 per cent per annum.

**Deposits** —  
£6.75 per cent per annum.

These rates will not apply to accounts where the investment exceeds £10,000 (£20,000 in the case of investments by husband and wife), or is held by a limited company, corporate body or discretionary or accumulating trust. For these accounts the rate of interest will also be reduced by £0.50 per cent per annum. The rate of interest on Term Shares will be automatically adjusted in the same way.

New accounts opened on or after 1st May will earn interest at the existing rates of £7.50 per cent per annum on Paid-Up Shares Class 2 and £7.25 per cent per annum on Deposits until 31st May. From 1st June the rates of interest on such accounts will be reduced in accordance with the previous paragraph.

Under the Society's existing Rules and Deposit Regulations present investors and depositors are entitled to at least one month's notice of any reduction in the rates of interest payable on their investment shares or deposits as the case may be. Holders of Paid-Up Shares Class 2 and Depositors whose accounts are open on 30th April are therefore given notice that in their case the rate of interest on those investment accounts will be reduced by £0.50 per cent per annum from 1st June 1975 until further notice.

Trinity Road,  
Halifax.

April 1975



## SCOTTISH PROVIDENT

The 137th ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING of MEMBERS of THE SCOTTISH PROVIDENT INSTITUTION will be held on TUESDAY 13th May, 1975 at 2.15 p.m. in the HEAD OFFICE.

6 ST. ANDREW SQUARE, EDINBURGH.

In addition to the Statement of Business for 1974, the results of the statutory investigation for the triennial period ended 31st December, 1974 will be reported.

Copies of the Report and Accounts are available from this address.

J. M. MACHARG  
General Manager and Actuary

6 St. Andrew Square, Edinburgh.  
29th April, 1975.

### D Charles to make up leeway

Although half-time profits of David Charles, Birmingham-based building contractors and property developers, show a downturn of 8.6 per cent to £1.15m, those for the full year to end-June are expected to match those of £2.85m last year. The enlarged private house-building programme, coupled with a growing level of demand and lower interest rates, is expected to improve group profit

An interim dividend of 0.96p against 0.93p has been declared, and the board reports that private house sales are at record

levels and the building programme is being expanded significantly. The construction order book is being maintained in spite of competitive conditions, but pre-funded commercial and industrial developments are being completed but no schemes are being undertaken until market conditions improve. In the group's other activities cab manufacturing is at record levels; there is significant growth in the travel business and the joinery and shop-fitting activities are maintaining their contribution to profits.







**London Office**  
81 Holborn Viaduct, EC1P 1AJ;  
28th April, 1975



## Equities drift

# HIGH & DRY

## Really Dry Gin

### THE TIMES SHARE INDICES

The Times Share indices for 28.04.72 to share date June 2, 1967 (annual date June 2, 1967)

	Index Late 1967	Int. Yield 1967	Firm Inc. 1967	Div. Yield Previous
<b>The Times Index</b>	1317.4	6.85	14.31	15.62
<b>Large Cap.</b>	1312.2	6.98	15.95	17.09
<b>Medium Cap.</b>	1294.1	6.78	15.46	16.59
<b>Small Cap.</b>	1245.2	6.18	13.91	15.56
<b>Capital Goods</b>	1245.2	6.18	13.91	15.56
<b>Consumer Goods</b>	1250.1	7.05	15.65	16.55
<b>Share Shares</b>				
<b>Large financial shares</b>	137.75	5.18		191.72
<b>Large financial and industrial shares</b>	123.49	6.19		103.78
<b>Commonwealth shares</b>	1216.05	4.19	14.31	211.53
<b>Gold Mining shares</b>	612.57	5.31	6.81	620.77
<b>Industrial</b>				
<b>Building stocks</b>	76.30	8.23*		70.98
<b>Engineering stocks</b>	47.36	10.90*		47.61
<b>Other stocks</b>	14.74*			2.04

\* Based on the Times Industrial Share Index as at June 1967

	High	Low
June 1967	1317.4	69.18
July 1967	1287.2	61.52
Aug 1967	1287.2	61.52
Sept 1967	1287.2	61.52
Oct 1967	1287.2	61.52
Nov 1967	1287.2	61.52
Dec 1967	1287.2	61.52
Jan 1968	1287.2	61.52
Feb 1968	1287.2	61.52
Mar 1968	1287.2	61.52
Apr 1968	1287.2	61.52
May 1968	1287.2	61.52
June 1968	1287.2	61.52
July 1968	1287.2	61.52
Aug 1968	1287.2	61.52
Sept 1968	1287.2	61.52
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Dec 1968	1287.2	61.52
Jan 1969	1287.2	61.52
Feb 1969	1287.2	61.52
Mar 1969	1287.2	61.52
Apr 1969	1287.2	61.52
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July 1969	1287.2	61.52
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Sept 1972	1287.2	61.52
Oct 1972	1287.2	61.52
Nov 1972	1287.2	61.52
Dec 1972	1287.2	61.52
Jan 1973	1287.2	61.52
Feb 1973	1287.2	61.52
Mar 1973	1287.2	61.52
Apr 1973	1287.2	61.52
May 1973	1287.2	







# UNIVERSITY APPOINTMENTS

## HOSPITAL MEDICAL SCHOOL (University of London)

### LECTURER OR LECTURER IN BIOCHEMISTRY

October 1975.  
Candidates should have a higher degree (M.Sc. or Ph.D.) in biochemistry or a related subject. The successful candidate will be expected to teach and supervise students in the Department of Biochemistry, Guy's Hospital Medical School, London Bridge, SE1 8RT.

## University of Cape Town

### LECTURERSHIP AND/OR SENIOR LECTURERSHIP IN PHYSICS

Applications are invited for a Lectureship and/or a Senior Lectureship in Physics. The successful candidate will be expected to teach and supervise students in the Department of Physics, University of Cape Town, Rondebosch, 7700. The salary scale is R12,000 to R24,000 per annum. Applications should be sent to the Director of Studies, University of Cape Town, Rondebosch, 7700.

## University of Rhodesia

### RESEARCH FELLOWSHIP

Applications are invited for a Research Fellowship in the Department of Physics, University of Rhodesia, Bulawayo. The successful candidate will be expected to conduct research in the field of physics. The salary scale is R12,000 to R24,000 per annum. Applications should be sent to the Director of Studies, University of Rhodesia, Bulawayo.

## LECTURER IN VETERINARY SURGERY (ANAEESTHESIOLOGY)

Department of Veterinary Clinical Studies.  
Candidates must hold a degree in Veterinary Science. The successful candidate will be expected to teach and supervise students in the Department of Veterinary Clinical Studies, University of Rhodesia, Bulawayo. The salary scale is R12,000 to R24,000 per annum. Applications should be sent to the Director of Studies, University of Rhodesia, Bulawayo.

## University of Adelaide

### LECTURER IN MECHANICAL ENGINEERING

Applications are invited for a Lectureship in Mechanical Engineering. The successful candidate will be expected to teach and supervise students in the Department of Mechanical Engineering, University of Adelaide, Adelaide, 5000. The salary scale is £12,000 to £24,000 per annum. Applications should be sent to the Director of Studies, University of Adelaide, Adelaide, 5000.

## SENIOR LECTURER IN SURGERY

Department of Surgery.  
Candidates must hold a degree in Medicine. The successful candidate will be expected to teach and supervise students in the Department of Surgery, University of Adelaide, Adelaide, 5000. The salary scale is £12,000 to £24,000 per annum. Applications should be sent to the Director of Studies, University of Adelaide, Adelaide, 5000.

## LECTURER (MEDICAL SOCIOLOGY)

Department of Community Medicine.  
Candidates must hold a degree in Medicine. The successful candidate will be expected to teach and supervise students in the Department of Community Medicine, University of Adelaide, Adelaide, 5000. The salary scale is £12,000 to £24,000 per annum. Applications should be sent to the Director of Studies, University of Adelaide, Adelaide, 5000.

## DEPUTY DIRECTOR OF THE EXTENSION SERVICE

Candidates should have had previous experience in the extension service. The successful candidate will be expected to manage the extension service. The salary scale is £12,000 to £24,000 per annum. Applications should be sent to the Director of Studies, University of Adelaide, Adelaide, 5000.

# UNIVERSITY APPOINTMENTS

## University of Hong Kong

### SENIOR LECTURERSHIP IN BIOCHEMISTRY

Applications are invited for a Senior Lectureship in Biochemistry. The successful candidate will be expected to teach and supervise students in the Department of Biochemistry, University of Hong Kong, Pokfulam, Hong Kong. The salary scale is HK\$12,000 to HK\$24,000 per annum. Applications should be sent to the Director of Studies, University of Hong Kong, Pokfulam, Hong Kong.

## University of Lagos

### PROFESSOR OF CHEMICAL ENGINEERING

Applications are invited for a Professorship in Chemical Engineering. The successful candidate will be expected to teach and supervise students in the Department of Chemical Engineering, University of Lagos, Lagos, Nigeria. The salary scale is N12,000 to N24,000 per annum. Applications should be sent to the Director of Studies, University of Lagos, Lagos, Nigeria.

## University of Newcastle

### SENIOR LECTURER/ LECTURER

Department of Psychology.  
Candidates must hold a degree in Psychology. The successful candidate will be expected to teach and supervise students in the Department of Psychology, University of Newcastle, Newcastle, Australia. The salary scale is £12,000 to £24,000 per annum. Applications should be sent to the Director of Studies, University of Newcastle, Newcastle, Australia.

## University of Sheffield

### ESTATES OFFICER

Applications are invited for an Estates Officer. The successful candidate will be expected to manage the estates of the University. The salary scale is £12,000 to £24,000 per annum. Applications should be sent to the Director of Studies, University of Sheffield, Sheffield, England.

## University of Victoria

### SENIOR LECTURERSHIP IN CLINICAL PSYCHOLOGY

Applications are invited for a Senior Lectureship in Clinical Psychology. The successful candidate will be expected to teach and supervise students in the Department of Clinical Psychology, University of Victoria, Victoria, Canada. The salary scale is C\$12,000 to C\$24,000 per annum. Applications should be sent to the Director of Studies, University of Victoria, Victoria, Canada.

## University of Wellington

### SENIOR LECTURERSHIP IN CLINICAL PSYCHOLOGY

Applications are invited for a Senior Lectureship in Clinical Psychology. The successful candidate will be expected to teach and supervise students in the Department of Clinical Psychology, University of Wellington, Wellington, New Zealand. The salary scale is NZ\$12,000 to NZ\$24,000 per annum. Applications should be sent to the Director of Studies, University of Wellington, Wellington, New Zealand.

## University of the West Indies

### TRINIDAD

Applications are invited for a Lectureship in the Department of Psychology, University of the West Indies, Trinidad. The successful candidate will be expected to teach and supervise students in the Department of Psychology, University of the West Indies, Trinidad. The salary scale is T\$12,000 to T\$24,000 per annum. Applications should be sent to the Director of Studies, University of the West Indies, Trinidad.

## University of London King's College

### CHAIR OF BOTANY

Applications are invited for a Chair of Botany. The successful candidate will be expected to teach and supervise students in the Department of Botany, University of London King's College, London, England. The salary scale is £12,000 to £24,000 per annum. Applications should be sent to the Director of Studies, University of London King's College, London, England.

## University of Queensland

### LECTURER IN PHYSIOLOGY

Applications are invited for a Lectureship in Physiology. The successful candidate will be expected to teach and supervise students in the Department of Physiology, University of Queensland, St. Lucia, Queensland, Australia. The salary scale is A\$12,000 to A\$24,000 per annum. Applications should be sent to the Director of Studies, University of Queensland, St. Lucia, Queensland, Australia.

## University of Aberdeen

### POST-DOCTORAL RESEARCH FELLOWSHIP

Applications are invited for a Post-Doctoral Research Fellowship. The successful candidate will be expected to conduct research in the field of physiology. The salary scale is £12,000 to £24,000 per annum. Applications should be sent to the Director of Studies, University of Aberdeen, Aberdeen, Scotland.

# UNIVERSITY APPOINTMENTS

## University of Lagos

### PROFESSOR OF CHEMICAL ENGINEERING

Applications are invited for a Professorship in Chemical Engineering. The successful candidate will be expected to teach and supervise students in the Department of Chemical Engineering, University of Lagos, Lagos, Nigeria. The salary scale is N12,000 to N24,000 per annum. Applications should be sent to the Director of Studies, University of Lagos, Lagos, Nigeria.

## University of Newcastle

### SENIOR LECTURER/ LECTURER

Department of Psychology.  
Candidates must hold a degree in Psychology. The successful candidate will be expected to teach and supervise students in the Department of Psychology, University of Newcastle, Newcastle, Australia. The salary scale is £12,000 to £24,000 per annum. Applications should be sent to the Director of Studies, University of Newcastle, Newcastle, Australia.

## University of Sheffield

### ESTATES OFFICER

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## University of Victoria

### SENIOR LECTURERSHIP IN CLINICAL PSYCHOLOGY

Applications are invited for a Senior Lectureship in Clinical Psychology. The successful candidate will be expected to teach and supervise students in the Department of Clinical Psychology, University of Victoria, Victoria, Canada. The salary scale is C\$12,000 to C\$24,000 per annum. Applications should be sent to the Director of Studies, University of Victoria, Victoria, Canada.

## University of Wellington

### SENIOR LECTURERSHIP IN CLINICAL PSYCHOLOGY

Applications are invited for a Senior Lectureship in Clinical Psychology. The successful candidate will be expected to teach and supervise students in the Department of Clinical Psychology, University of Wellington, Wellington, New Zealand. The salary scale is NZ\$12,000 to NZ\$24,000 per annum. Applications should be sent to the Director of Studies, University of Wellington, Wellington, New Zealand.

## University of the West Indies

### TRINIDAD

Applications are invited for a Lectureship in the Department of Psychology, University of the West Indies, Trinidad. The successful candidate will be expected to teach and supervise students in the Department of Psychology, University of the West Indies, Trinidad. The salary scale is T\$12,000 to T\$24,000 per annum. Applications should be sent to the Director of Studies, University of the West Indies, Trinidad.

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## University of Queensland

### LECTURER IN PHYSIOLOGY

Applications are invited for a Lectureship in Physiology. The successful candidate will be expected to teach and supervise students in the Department of Physiology, University of Queensland, St. Lucia, Queensland, Australia. The salary scale is A\$12,000 to A\$24,000 per annum. Applications should be sent to the Director of Studies, University of Queensland, St. Lucia, Queensland, Australia.

## University of Aberdeen

### POST-DOCTORAL RESEARCH FELLOWSHIP

Applications are invited for a Post-Doctoral Research Fellowship. The successful candidate will be expected to conduct research in the field of physiology. The salary scale is £12,000 to £24,000 per annum. Applications should be sent to the Director of Studies, University of Aberdeen, Aberdeen, Scotland.

# UNIVERSITY APPOINTMENTS

## University of Hong Kong

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## University of Lagos

### PROFESSOR OF CHEMICAL ENGINEERING

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## University of Newcastle

### SENIOR LECTURER/ LECTURER

Department of Psychology.  
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## University of Aberdeen

### POST-DOCTORAL RESEARCH FELLOWSHIP

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# DOMESTIC SITUATIONS

## INTELLIGENT GIRL

Wanted to help mother with boys (9, 7 and 2). Baby due August. Some experience and good references essential. Must like the country. Riding? Country house on farm near Loch Lomond. Live as member of family. Must suit two jobs. Own room or separate flat. Own TV. Daily help kept. Good wages plus travel with family to Sweden and Florida. Write to Mrs. W. F. Macdonald, 111, 113, 115, 117, 119, 121, 123, 125, 127, 129, 131, 133, 135, 137, 139, 141, 143, 145, 147, 149, 151, 153, 155, 157, 159, 161, 163, 165, 167, 169, 171, 173, 175, 177, 179, 181, 183, 185, 187, 189, 191, 193, 195, 197, 199, 201, 203, 205, 207, 209, 211, 213, 215, 217, 219, 221, 223, 225, 227, 229, 231, 233, 235, 237, 239, 241, 243, 245, 247, 249, 251, 253, 255, 257, 259, 261, 263, 265, 267, 269, 271, 273, 275, 277, 279, 281, 283, 285, 287, 289, 291, 293, 295, 297, 299, 301, 303, 305, 307, 309, 311, 313, 315, 317, 319, 321, 323, 325, 327, 329, 331, 333, 335, 337, 339, 341, 343, 345, 347, 349, 351, 353, 355, 357, 359, 361, 363, 365, 367, 369, 371, 373, 375, 377, 379, 381, 383, 385, 387, 389, 391, 393, 395, 397, 399, 401, 403, 405, 407, 409, 411, 413, 415, 417, 419, 421, 423, 425, 427, 429, 431, 433, 435, 437, 439, 441, 443, 445, 447, 449, 451, 453, 455, 457, 459, 461, 463, 465, 467, 469, 471, 473, 475, 477, 479, 481, 483, 485, 487, 489, 491, 493, 495, 497, 499, 501, 503, 505, 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1587, 1589, 1591, 1593, 1595, 1597, 1599, 1601, 1603, 1605, 1607, 1609, 1611, 1613, 1615, 1617, 1619, 1621, 1623, 1625, 1627, 1629, 1631, 1633, 1635, 1637, 1639, 1641, 1643, 1645, 1647, 1649, 1651, 1653, 1655, 1657, 1659, 1661, 1663, 1665, 1667, 1669, 1671, 1673, 1675, 1677, 1679, 1681, 1683, 1685, 1687, 1689, 1691, 1693, 1695, 1697, 1699, 1701, 1703, 1705, 1707, 1709, 1711, 1713, 1715, 1717, 1719, 1721, 1723, 1725, 1727, 1729, 1731, 1733, 1735, 1737, 1739, 1741, 1743, 1745, 1747, 1749, 1751, 1753, 1755, 1757, 1759, 1761, 1763, 1765, 1767, 1769, 1771, 1773, 1775, 1777, 1779, 1781, 1783, 1785, 1787, 1789, 1791, 1793, 1795, 1797, 1799, 1801, 1803, 1805, 1807, 1809, 1811, 1813, 1815, 1817, 1819, 1821, 1823, 1825, 1827, 1829, 1831, 1833, 1835, 1837, 1839, 1841, 1843, 1845, 1847, 1849, 1851, 1853, 1855, 1857, 1859, 1861, 1863, 1865, 1867, 1869, 1871, 1873, 1875, 1877, 1879, 1881, 1883, 1885, 1887, 1889, 1891, 1893, 1895, 1897, 1899, 1901, 1903, 1905, 1907, 1909, 1911, 1913, 1915, 1917, 1919, 1921, 1923, 1925, 1927, 1929, 1931, 1933, 1935, 1937, 1939, 1941, 1943, 1945, 1947, 1949, 1951, 1953, 1955, 1957, 1959, 1961, 1963, 1965, 1967, 1969, 1971, 1973, 1975, 1977, 1979, 1981, 1983, 1985, 1987, 1989, 1991, 1993, 1995, 1997, 1999, 2001, 2003, 2005, 2007, 2009, 2011, 2013, 2015, 2017, 2019, 2021, 2023, 2025, 2027, 2029, 2031, 2033, 2035, 2037, 2039, 2041, 2043, 2045, 2047, 2049, 2051, 2053, 2055, 2057, 2059, 2061, 2063, 2065











